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YUKON UTILITIES BOARD

YUKON ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED 2016-2017 GENERAL RATE
APPLICATION

P R O C E E D I N G S

Volume 2
November 2, 2016
Whitehorse, Yukon

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2 4051-4th Avenue, Whitehorse, Yukon.

3

4 Volume 2

5 November 2, 2016

6

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Mr. A. Fortin	Board Member
Ms. B. King	Board Member
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Ms. D. Lemke	Board Staff

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Mr. B. Williams	For the Yukon Electric Company Limited
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Mr. J. Epp	For the Yukon Energy Corporation
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Mr. T. Marriott	For the City of Whitehorse
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Mr. R. Rondeau	For the Utilities Consumers' Group
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Ms. A. Middler	For the Yukon Conservation Society
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20

Mr. J. Maissan	In his own stead
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21

Ms. D. Harmata, CSR(A) Ms. A. Jones, CSR()	Official Court Reporters
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22

23 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 9:08 A.M.)

24 THE CHAIR: Morning, everyone. Welcome back.

25 Just a quick reminder if you have cell phones to

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Undertaking Responses

1 please put them on vibrate or silent or whatever you're
2 going to do with those. Somehow mine turned itself
3 back on yesterday, but luckily it didn't ring.

4 I just notice in the back Bruce McLennan used to
5 be the chair of our board. He came in to see us, make
6 sure we're doing a good job. Hi, Bruce.

7 And are there any housekeeping matters this
8 morning?

9 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, there are, sir.

10 UNDERTAKING RESPONSES:

09:02

11
12 T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE

13 (For ATCO Electric Yukon General Panel), previously sworn

14 MR. WILLIAMS: We have four undertakings that
15 were provided yesterday. We have responses to those to
16 provide you today. And just to clarify, the four
17 undertakings look like they respond to the first five
18 undertakings on the list that I've been provided from
19 the Panel. We went off of the transcript which
20 identified four, and it looks like Undertakings 3 and 4
21 on the Panel and on the Board's list have divided up
22 one of those undertakings, so we're responding to the
23 first five on your list.

09:09

24 The first, sir, is an undertaking provided by
25 Mr. Grattan to Mr. Marriott, and that's at page 24,

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Undertaking Responses

1 lines 1 to 3.

2 I won't propose to read each of these into the
3 record. As everybody has these, I've taken the liberty
4 of passing them out to my colleagues in the crowd as
5 well. So each intervener should have a copy, and I
6 know the Panel has a copy too. So unless you'd like me
7 to read them into the record, I won't bother to do
8 that.

9 THE CHAIR: So just a question on that in that
10 first one. The actual cost of September 30, 2015; is
11 that correct? Or is that 2016?

09:10

12 MR. WILLIAMS: 2016, sir.

13 THE CHAIR: So we're going to just change
14 this.

15 MR. WILLIAMS: We can -- we can revise the
16 document and come back again, or we can change it on
17 the record. Whatever your preference would be.

18 THE CHAIR: Maybe we can just revise it, and
19 then you can give it to us at one of the breaks.

20 MR. WILLIAMS: That's fine, sir. So on that
21 note, I have three undertakings to provide you.

09:10

22 The first would be an undertaking from Mr. Coyne
23 to Mr. Marriott, page 34, lines 14 to 15; and, again,
24 unless you wish me to, I won't bother reading the
25 document into the record.

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Undertaking Responses

1 THE CHAIR: All right. So we'll mark that, I
2 think, as Exhibit B-15.

3 Is that correct? Yes. So B-15.

4 **EXHIBIT B-15 - RESPONSE TO UNDERTAKING**
5 **FROM MR. COYNE TO MR. MARRIOTT,**
6 **PAGE 34, LINES 14 TO 15**

7 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, sir.

8 The next undertaking is, again, from Mr. Coyne
9 this time to Board counsel, and it is page 96, lines 15
10 to 23.

09:11

11 THE CHAIR: And this is the answer to
12 questions -- or the ones that we've labelled 3 and 4?

13 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, sir.

14 THE CHAIR: Okay. We'll give that one B-16.

15 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, sir.

16 **EXHIBIT B-16 - RESPONSE TO**
17 **UNDERTAKINGS 3 AND 4 FROM MR. COYNE TO**
18 **BOARD COUNSEL, PAGE 96, LINES 15 TO 23**

19 MR. WILLIAMS: And the final undertaking or
20 response to undertaking for this morning is -- it was
21 given by Mr. Massie to Mr. Marriott, and it is
22 page 120, lines 14 to 16, sir.

09:12

23 THE CHAIR: And that's the answer to Number 5?

24 MR. WILLIAMS: That is correct.

25 THE CHAIR: We'll call that one B-17.

1 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, sir.

2 EXHIBIT B-17 - RESPONSE TO
3 UNDERTAKING 5 FROM MR. MASSIE TO
4 MR. MARRIOTT, PAGE 120, LINES 14 TO 16

5 MR. WILLIAMS: So we will be back to you with
6 answers to 1 and 6 on your list.

7 That concludes my comments for this morning, but I
8 do understand that Mr. Tenney would like to make, I
9 believe, two clarifications to the testimony he
10 provided yesterday.

09:12

11 THE CHAIR: Okay. Just a second, please.
12 Okay. Go ahead.

13 A. MR. TENNEY: Thank you.

14 The first is more of a correction than a
15 clarification. And it refers to at page 90,
16 approximately lines 17 to 22, we were talking about
17 Exhibit B-14. That was the update to the "in charge"
18 program filed on October 31st.

19 I incorrectly stated that that update provided
20 estimates of residential and commercial DSM/Energy
21 savings, and I was incorrect. It only represents
22 residential programs. Commercial programs are being
23 done by the government and not the "in charge" group.

09:13

24 So that's my first correction.

25 The second one is more of a clarification, and

1 that is in about page 138 of the transcripts,
2 approximately line 5 to 7. And that was when I was
3 discussing with Mr. Marriott about the information
4 response YUB-YECL-10(b), which was a spreadsheet that
5 showed the analysis of conversion of street lights.

6 And I think I may have incorrectly stated that it
7 was a simple payback. I think we were talking about
8 payback, but just to be clear what that spreadsheet
9 does is it details the annual revenue requirements for
10 each year, and then discounts those back into today's
11 dollars.

09:14

12 And so the end result is a net present value of
13 zero, which indicates that the customers do not see an
14 increase or a decrease in their cost over the lifecycle
15 of the light. That was a clarification.

16 That's all I have, sir. Thank you.

17 THE CHAIR: Okay.

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, sir. With that, I turn
19 things back over to Mr. Rondeau to continue from
20 yesterday.

09:15

21 THE CHAIR: Okay. And I guess I just skipped
22 over one thing, and welcoming back the panel, and
23 reminding them that they are still sworn from
24 yesterday.

25 So, Mr. Rondeau, are you ready to proceed?

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 MR. RONDEAU: Yes, I am.

2 Good morning, Mr. Chair, and all people at the
3 house here.

4 **MR. RONDEAU CROSS-EXAMINES THE PANEL:**

5 Q. Just in continuing with my -- yesterday's questioning
6 on capital expenditures, I just have -- I did look at
7 CW-1, and I got a bit of comfort from that, but I have
8 a few explanations that I would like to get from you.

9 The first one is on how these contributions
10 operate in forecasting. I don't quite understand.

09:15

11 A. MR. MASSIE: Okay. I'll start off and just --
12 at the CW-1 table to hopefully explain it or illustrate
13 it from there. I might need Mr. Grattan to jump in on
14 any spots that -- the accounting part of contributions.

15 So, again, we forecast our new extensions based on
16 a number of inputs from customers and developers. You
17 know, we say that the contributions -- new extension
18 programs on average are about 80 percent contributed by
19 the customer. So the new extension is built for the
20 customer. They pay the full cost.

09:16

21 Our part in it is investing in any commercial
22 load, residential lot. We will invest in each one of
23 those lots as per the terms and conditions, as well as
24 street lights, if we're talking about Whistle Bend.

25 So on average -- because each one of these new

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 extensions is just rolled up into this number. In this
2 number we'll include a stage of Whistle Bend. It will
3 also include a two-pull line to somebody's house out in
4 Wolf Creek. So there's a big difference in the
5 customers that come in.

6 However, overall, 80 percent of those costs are
7 covered by the customers, and approximately 20 percent
8 are our investment as per the terms and conditions.

9 And if we look at those numbers on the actuals --
10 so the contributions were 4.866. And the net new
11 extensions number is our investment, which is 1.275. I
12 don't know how -- we wouldn't do the percentages to
13 figure out where we're at there compared to the 6.1,
14 but it's very close to that 80-20 split.

15 Q. Okay. That's good. That's very helpful. Thank you.

16 So from this, what I want to clarify is the
17 controllable capital, if you go back to the capital
18 expenditures, is it only the controllable capital that
19 goes into the revenue requirement?

20 A. MR. GRATTAN: No. So both the forecast for net
21 new extensions and controllable capital are included in
22 the forecast rate base as part of a test period.

23 Q. So the full amount -- what we see on that Schedule 9.2,
24 the full amounts go in.

25 A. MR. GRATTAN: Well, if we just stay at CW-YECL-1

09:17

09:18

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 for a second.

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. MR. GRATTAN: When you're looking at the
4 approved column, so the net new extensions where
5 Mr. Massie detailed \$2.4 million --

6 Q. Yes.

7 A. MR. GRATTAN: -- of approved, so that's what was
8 put into forecasted rate base.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. MR. GRATTAN: For the '13 to '15 GRA.

09:19

11 Q. Okay. Yeah. That's how I was hoping it would be.
12 Okay. Thank you.

13 I have one more question on the affiliates before
14 I move on to rate of return and other things. And for
15 that I would like you to turn to Schedule 5.3, page 1,
16 and it is affiliate charges included in the operation
17 and maintenance expenses.

18 A. MR. GRATTAN: Just one moment, please. I am
19 there.

20 Q. Okay. Now, if we look at this chart, again looking at
21 approved and actuals, again, we have problems with the
22 forecasting where there's such a discrepancy. If you
23 look at 2013 to 2015, each year the actuals are lower
24 than what has been approved. Would you like to
25 explain?

09:21

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 A. MR. GRATTAN: So what line are you looking at,
2 Mr. Rondeau?

3 Q. Which line? The very last line --

4 A. MR. GRATTAN: Just the bottom?

5 Q. -- in 20. Yes.

6 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay. So at a high level, and we
7 can get into the details if you want, but the major
8 reason why there was a decrease in the actuals compared
9 to the forecast was as a result of a change in our
10 information technology service provider that took place
11 in 2014. So at that point in time, the information
12 technology service provider went from an affiliate
13 company, ATCO I-Teck to a non-affiliate company,
14 Wipro Technologies. So on this particular schedule, it
15 no longer is deemed an affiliate charge.

09:22

16 So when you look at, for example, line 7.

17 Q. Yes.

18 A. MR. GRATTAN: And you can see it going from an
19 approved level of 462 in 2013 down to \$246,000 in 2014.
20 That is as a result of a change in service providers
21 effective September 1, 2014. So from that date forward
22 we no longer have an affiliate providing IT services
23 and you will note when you get to 2015 it goes down to
24 zero.

09:23

25 Following me so far?

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 Q. Yes.

2 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay. And then when you look at
3 line 8 --

4 Q. I'm there.

5 A. MR. GRATTAN: -- you will note that in 2014 the
6 actual was \$583,000, and then it goes down to zero as
7 of 2015. Once again, for customer care and billing
8 purposes, we changed our approach for that service.
9 That change was effective from an affiliate point of
10 view in -- in 2014 where, once again, we have a
11 significant drop from that 583 down to zero in 2015.

09:24

12 Following me with that?

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay. So the best way to
15 understand this is to go to a different line item. So
16 if you'll indulge me, just to make sure that you
17 understand how things have worked. If you go to
18 Schedule 5.1, line 32, which is customer billing and
19 accounting.

20 Q. I'm there.

09:26

21 A. MR. GRATTAN: And what you're going to see is a
22 figure in 2014 of \$774 actual versus a forecast of 750.
23 So 2014 we were just slightly higher than forecast, and
24 that's where these customer care and billing charges
25 are coming through, depending on which service provider

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 we had. Then you come along into 2015, and it drops
2 for \$600,000 actual versus 775 approved. So what
3 happened in 2015 with the new way of providing customer
4 care and billing services, there was a reduction in
5 charges that occurred in 2015, and then that will
6 continue to be the case going forward.

7 So this sort of ties to what we were talking about
8 yesterday, Mr. Rondeau, where we came up with a
9 different way of having customer care and billing
10 services being provided to ATCO Electric Yukon. There
11 were savings that were -- that occurred in 2015, and we
12 are passing on those savings to customers on a
13 go-forward basis.

09:27

14 Q. And where would we see that, just to clarify?

15 A. MR. GRATTAN: So when you look at line -- that
16 same line, line 32.

17 Q. Yes.

18 A. MR. GRATTAN: Where you see we are forecasting a
19 total -- total customer care and billing accounting.
20 And that includes all costs relating to customer care
21 and billing, \$615,000 versus actual of 600 in 2015.
22 You will note that that is approximately \$100,000 lower
23 than what was approved as part of the last general rate
24 application. That's how customers will see the benefit
25 of this change in service provider.

09:28

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 Q. Going forward. Thank you.

2 Okay. Return on rate base. First of all, look at
3 Section 8, page 8-1. And it just gives you a chart of
4 the return on rate base from 2013 going forward into
5 the test period?

6 A. MR. GRATTAN: I'm there.

7 Q. Okay. Now, I see there is what appears to be a rapid
8 increase each year for somewhere around a million
9 dollars. Can you explain?

10 A. MR. GRATTAN: Can you just take me to the exact
11 line that you're referring to, Mr. Rondeau?

12 Q. I'm referring to the return on rate base, the chart
13 right at the top of the overview.

14 A. MR. GRATTAN: Yes.

15 Q. If you go each year.

16 A. MR. GRATTAN: Oh, sorry, I'm on the wrong -- I'm
17 on the wrong page.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay. So I'm there now, and
20 you're wanting to understand the delta between the 5.8
21 and the 6.9?

22 Q. Yes. Just give us that one in particular for now.

23 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay. So the -- so if we just
24 focus on the 5.8 for a moment, that 5.8. And I'm going
25 to take you to another piece of paper. If I can take

09:29

09:30

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 you to Schedule 8.1, Mr. Rondeau, I think that will be
2 easier for you to follow.

3 Q. I think I have those to question you further anyway.

4 A. MR. GRATTAN: Perfect. Are you there?

5 Q. Yes.

6 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay. So the -- if you look on
7 2015 actual, line 25, on Schedule 8.1.

8 Q. Total, yes.

9 A. MR. GRATTAN: \$5,838,000, if I can read the
10 print, and that is a function of the return both on the
11 debt and the equity components of our rate base. And
12 in 2015 the average cost of debt was 5.58 percent, and
13 ATCO Electric Yukon's return was 7.40 percent.

09:31

14 Do you see that in the mid year cost rates column?

15 Q. Yes.

16 A. MR. GRATTAN: So it's a mathematically derived
17 number that determines the quantum of rate base, which
18 is just under \$93 million, 92,995. Divide that rate
19 base into the debt components and the equity components
20 and the no-cost capital components, and we determine
21 the cost -- or the return for the debt side as well as
22 the common stock or equity side resulting in the
23 \$5.8 million?

09:32

24 Q. So basically for that year it's the long-term debt
25 that --

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Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 A. MR. GRATTAN: That was --

2 Q. -- drove the increase?

3 A. MR. GRATTAN: No. So basically what I'm going
4 to highlight in a second is it, is that that return of
5 7.4 percent is going to be the major delta that we're
6 going to be talking about in two seconds here.

7 So focus on that 7.4 percent return.

8 Q. Yes.

9 A. MR. GRATTAN: Based on an equity component of
10 40 percent.

11 Then we go to what we're forecasting for 2016, and
12 you will note that we are forecasting the requested
13 generic return of 8.75 in British Columbia plus an
14 additional 60 basis points. So the return is going to
15 be higher for ATCO Electric Yukon based on this
16 forecast.

17 Q. Understand.

18 A. MR. GRATTAN: The -- as you said, on the debt
19 side, there's actually a small decrease on the average
20 cost of debt based on what we're forecasting as the
21 cost of debt in 2016.

22 So that in a nutshell walks you through why -- and
23 last, but not least, you have to apply those rates
24 times a growing rate base, and that is why you get a
25 larger return at the end of all of this in the

09:33

09:34

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 6.9 range that you've referred to in our original
2 application versus the 5.8 that was the result in 2015.

3 Q. Okay. We can stay on Schedule 8.1. And, again, my
4 questioning is on actuals and approved. If you go back
5 to the first page, 2013, there's a discrepancy again in
6 the mid-year balances?

7 A. MR. GRATTAN: So I'm not sure what you mean by
8 "discrepancy."

9 Q. Well --

10 A. MR. GRATTAN: Is that between approved and
11 awarded --

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. MR. GRATTAN: -- or between awarded --

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. MR. GRATTAN: So just to make sure we're on the
16 same page --

17 Q. I gather those -- once the mid-year balance -- that's
18 the rate base numbers?

19 A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct. Mid-year rate base of
20 70 million, 602 for actual for 2013. Is that what
21 you're referring to?

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay.

24 Q. And the approved is lower, the approved rate base
25 appears to be lower now. Is that the case? Which one

09:35

09:36

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
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1 do you use for your rate of return?

2 A. MR. GRATTAN: So the forecasted rate base was
3 the approved rate base, which if we're looking at the
4 same document is 72 million, 237.

5 Q. Yes.

6 A. MR. GRATTAN: And the actual rate base in 2013
7 turned out to be 70 million, 602.

8 Q. Oh, I see. Okay. We're on the mid-year.

9 So, actually, your approved rate base is greater
10 than the actuals?

09:37

11 A. MR. GRATTAN: That is correct.

12 Q. Okay. And that follows through for the other years as
13 well?

14 A. MR. GRATTAN: It does.

15 Q. Okay. If we go back into page 8-6 of the application,
16 and it's on no-cost capital, which goes into the rate
17 base -- or pardon me. No. That's the next section.

18 No-cost capital, and there's a chart showing
19 actuals and the test period forecast.

20 A. MR. GRATTAN: I am there.

09:38

21 Q. Okay. My question is why is there such an increase
22 from 2015 to the first test year period, from 446 to
23 658,000?

24 A. MR. GRATTAN: Sure. And I'm going to take you
25 to Schedule 8.4, if that's okay. Are you there?

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Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 Q. For some reason that page is missing in my book here.

2 A. MR. GRATTAN: Maybe my friend Mr. Williams can
3 help on that.

4 Q. I have all the others. Page 1... Maybe I do have that
5 one. Okay. Thank you. Yes. 8.6, page 1 -- or
6 Schedule 8.6?

7 A. MR. GRATTAN: No, sorry. Schedule 8.4.

8 Q. Oh.

9 A. MR. GRATTAN: 8.4, Schedule 8.4. It's the
10 continuity schedule of no cost capital.

09:40

11 Q. Okay. I'm there.

12 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay. And I'm going to take you
13 to the column that says "actual 2015."

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. MR. GRATTAN: And the \$446,000, if you look at
16 those top sets of -- top set of numbers, you're going
17 to note that that \$446,000 is made up of three areas:
18 Other post-employment benefits, defined benefit
19 pension, and the reserve for injuries and damages,
20 which are 537,000, 137,000, and negative 228
21 respectively.

09:40

22 Do you see that?

23 Q. Yes.

24 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay. So the reason for the
25 change between 2015 and 2016 is essentially due to the

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 reserve for injuries and damages component of no-cost
2 capital, where it's going from a figure of 228,000
3 negative to a negative number of 17 in 2016. And if
4 you want to see how the -- why that's occurring, you
5 have to go down a little bit further on the page and
6 see the continuity schedule reserve for injuries and
7 damages which is at the bottom of Schedule 8.4.

8 Q. I'm there.

9 A. So there's a mid-year balance for the reserve for
10 injuries and damages and 2015 of 228,000, which is the
11 line -- or the number at the bottom of Schedule 8.4,
12 actual 15 column. Do you see that?

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. MR. GRATTAN: And then when you move forward
15 from there and you determine the mid-year balance for
16 2016, for that component of no-cost capital, it changes
17 to negative 17 from the previous year of negative 228.
18 So that explains your difference in no-cost capital.

19 Q. Okay. I'm going to ask some questions on the RID
20 later.

21 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay.

22 Q. It's very difficult to understand that, and now when
23 it's in the negatives here, that makes it even more
24 difficult, but we can deal with that down the line.

25 Okay. On the same page, 8-6, we're back onto

09:42

09:42

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 capital additions, capital expenditures. My question
2 is, are these numbers that you have here identical to
3 those additions that were approved?

4 A. MR. GRATTAN: Those -- I'll take a stab at that.
5 So if you go to -- those expenditures are the actual
6 expenditures, if you're looking at page 8-6 of
7 the application.

8 Q. The capital additions?

9 A. MR. GRATTAN: Expenditures and capital
10 additions.

11 Q. Okay. Yeah.

12 A. MR. GRATTAN: Yeah. Just one moment.

13 And then if you want to see the details of the
14 actual versus approved figures, you have to go to
15 Schedule 9.1 included in the application.

16 Q. Again, it appears I'm missing that page. I have
17 Schedule 9.2. Perhaps I was looking at it in some
18 other area and took it out, Schedule 9.1. Okay.
19 Mr. Grattan, I'm there.

20 A. MR. GRATTAN: So that's where we detail what
21 actually happened versus what was approved as part of
22 the last general rate application.

23 Q. Plant additions? Is that the right -- 9.1?

24 A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct. It's titled
25 "Plant Additions." It shows actual and approved for

09:44

09:46

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Cross-examined by Mr. Rondeau

1 each of the years '13, '14, and '15, and then our
2 forecasts for 2016 and 2017.

3 Q. Again, I note that the actuals are lower than the
4 approved.

5 A. MR. GRATTAN: Right, and that was the discussion
6 that we had yesterday, that the largest component of
7 that delta is offset by a similar amount for
8 contributions.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. MR. GRATTAN: Which takes you back to that CW-1
11 IR that we talked about yesterday.

12 Q. Okay. Thank you, James.

13 Schedule 8.5, page 1.

14 A. MR. GRATTAN: I am at Schedule 8.5.

15 Q. Okay. The last year of the YECL regulatory review was
16 2015 -- or 2015. Am I correct?

17 A. MR. GRATTAN: Yes, the last general rate
18 application had approved forecasts for the years '13,
19 '14, and '15.

20 Q. Again, looking at the net rate base approved and
21 actuals for the prior years '13 to '15, we see the
22 approved higher than the actuals in each of those
23 years.

24 A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct.

25 Q. Would you care to explain that a bit more?

09:47

09:48

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1 A. MR. GRATTAN: It's simply a function of our --
2 of our forecasts being somewhat slightly different than
3 what was -- what actually occurred. So I'm not sure I
4 can add any more other than the details that we've been
5 talking about over the last couple of days.

6 Q. That's fine.

7 Revenue requirement. Now, we received an update
8 on the actual revenue requirement and the impacts. I
9 gather that is with new updated materials up until what
10 time? October? November?

09:50

11 A. MR. GRATTAN: The update was based on
12 information we had as of October.

13 Q. As of October? And can you confirm --

14 A. MR. GRATTAN: Sorry. I'm going to let
15 Mr. Tenney jump in here for a second.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. MR. TENNEY: I just want to be clear. I worry
18 that you assumed that we updated every bit of our
19 forecast up till October. I think in the update
20 letter -- and I don't have the date on mine, of
21 course -- I think it was October 10th, or
22 thereabouts -- we corrected a number of -- we had an
23 error. So it's October 24th.

09:50

24 So in that letter we outlined that -- those
25 portions of the filing that we updated. We didn't

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1 update O&M forecasts or things of that nature.

2 Q. Okay. Can you confirm that the new rate increase
3 requested is 4 percent in '16 and 3.9 percent in '17?

4 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes. That's correct. On the
5 October 42 it highlights that.

6 Q. So lower in -- lower in '16; higher in '17.

7 A. MR. GRATTAN: Yes. And I think if you do the
8 math, the revenue requirements dropped by approximately
9 \$237,000 in 2016, and it increase by approximately
10 203,000 in 2017, if I do my math correct. So overall
11 there's approximately a \$34,000 decrease in the
12 two-year period as a result of this update.

13 Q. Please look at Schedule 11 -- pardon me, 1.1.

14 A. MR. GRATTAN: I'm there.

15 Q. And this is utility revenue requirement.

16 A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct.

17 Q. Okay. Again, if we look at the years 2013 to 2015 on
18 the total revenues, we see that your actual revenues
19 were greater in each year than what you forecasted or
20 than what was approved.

21 A. MR. GRATTAN: Yes.

22 Q. Therefore, when you go down the line to the return on
23 rate base, all of these increased the same way.

24 You're --

25 A. MR. GRATTAN: I don't think they're correlated

09:51

09:53

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1 but --

2 Q. Okay. There's no correlation in there?

3 A. MR. GRATTAN: So what you -- one thing that
4 you've got to taken into consideration was -- and it's
5 a big delta that was going on. When you look at the
6 overall retail revenues versus what was approved, if
7 you take a look at line 7, which is the purchase power,
8 what we paid Yukon Energy.

9 Q. I'm there.

10 A. MR. GRATTAN: And there was an approved forecast
11 of -- I'll just use 2013 as an example --
12 24 million, 858, and we ultimately paid Yukon Energy
13 31,270 -- \$31,270,000.

14 So for all prices variances versus what was
15 forecast for Yukon Energy rates, we flow those through.
16 So Yukon Electrical -- well, if it gets charged an
17 extra dollar from Yukon Energy arising from a rate
18 change, we flow that through to customers. That's why
19 you see some relatively significant swings on that
20 line.

21 Q. I guess that's where I have a little bit of problems.
22 Your revenues increased, and then when you go to the
23 bottom line your total costs, it appears that they
24 magically match. Is that -- is this just a balance
25 sheet?

09:54

09:55

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1 A. MR. GRATTAN: It's a function of how the
2 regulatory model works. So whenever you are preparing
3 a cost-of-service forecast or looking at what actually
4 happened in a given year, the revenues, line 4, will
5 always need to match what the total costs, including
6 return, were for the utility in that given year, which
7 is line 16.

8 Q. It's a balance sheet, basically.

9 A. MR. GRATTAN: It's one way of looking at it,
10 sure.

09:56

11 Q. Okay. Okay. Going to the fuel costs, and that's
12 page 4.1 of the application. And the note that you
13 qualify these states that the forecast fuel increase in
14 2016 --

15 A. MR. GRATTAN: Decrease in 2016.

16 Q. Yeah.

17 -- is due to lower -- forecast decrease, yes -- is
18 lower -- due to the fuel price than previously
19 approved?

20 A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct.

09:57

21 Q. Now, it's my understanding that this previously
22 approved, again, is what is used to go into the base
23 fuel prices in Rider F.

24 A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct.

25 Q. Okay. My question is, can you confirm that Schedule

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1 2.1 in your application indicates that the fuel
2 variance being credited back to ratepayers is 1.325
3 million in 2016 and 1.329 million in 2017?

4 **A. MR. MARTINO: I'll take that one. Yes.**
5 **Confirmed.**

6 Q. Thank you. Load forecast, Section 2 of your
7 application, 2.1.

8 **A. MR. MARTINO: Yes, that's me.**

9 Q. That's you?

10 **A. MR. MARTINO: Yeah.**

11 Q. Okay. You state that: (as read)

12 "Total primary non-industrial sales are
13 forecast to decrease in '16 by 1.5 and
14 increase by 1.9 in '17."

15 **A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.**

16 Q. You also indicate that your sales forecasts in '14 and
17 '15 were more than 4 percent too high.

18 **A. MR. MARTINO: Correct.**

19 Q. Okay. In response to UCG 1.1, you provide a sales
20 forecast which incorporates six months of your actuals
21 into the 2016 forecast, as well as going forward
22 impacting the 2017 forecast; is that correct?

23 **A. MR. MARTINO: Correct.**

24 Q. Okay. Again, giving -- given that it's now November,
25 can you update your sales forecast for 2016 and '17?

09:59

10:00

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1 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.

2 Q. Say nine or ten months instead of the six?

3 A. MR. MARTINO: That's correct. With -- now that
4 we have data up to the end of September, we've looked
5 at our forecast and how it compares to actuals, and on
6 the year to date as of September, our current forecast
7 is within .3 percent on the use per customer compared
8 to actuals, and so it's even -- coming in even closer
9 than what we had as of the end of June.

10 Q. Can perhaps you give us a Table 1 update in an
11 undertaking?

12 A. MR. MARTINO: So to confirm, you would like
13 UCG 1.1 redone using nine months of actuals for both
14 '16 and '17?

15 Q. Yes, please.

16 A. MR. MARTINO: Okay. Yes, we can undertake to do
17 that.

18 UNDERTAKING - TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE

19 TABLE 1 IN UCG 1.1 USING NINE MONTHS OF

20 ACTUALS FOR BOTH 2016 AND 2017

21 Q. MR. RONDEAU: Does AEY collaborate with
22 Yukon Energy when doing your business plan load
23 forecast for purchase power in the autumn of each year?

24 A. MR. MARTINO: I believe, yes, we do have
25 discussions for purposes of preparing various

10:01

10:02

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1 forecasts, for other purposes. But for this GRA, we
2 predominantly basically do our own analysis on what we
3 forecast our sales to be.

4 Q. So there's been no collaboration for 2016?

5 A. MR. MARTINO: Other than just some of the other
6 items, like, for example, like on wholesale sales and
7 other aspects like secondary sales, we have discussions
8 just to confirm our understanding, but for the most
9 part we perform our own analysis on our sales for the
10 test period.

10:03

11 Q. So there is really no paperwork between the two of you
12 to see if they are in line with your forecasts or...

13 A. MR. MARTINO: No, nothing formal for this
14 purpose.

15 A. MR. GRATTAN: So, Mr. Rondeau, just to confirm,
16 so you -- as Mr. Martino said, our forecast relates to
17 all of our retail customers. In reality, YEC is not in
18 the business of forecasting ATCO Electric Yukon's
19 customers.

20 Q. Yes, but it's important for them to know your load
21 forecasts.

10:04

22 A. MR. GRATTAN: And we do communicate that to
23 Yukon Energy on a regular basis.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. MR. MARTINO: Correct.

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1 Q. Okay. On page 11.7 of the application, AEY states
2 that: (as read)

3 "The DSM programming costs already
4 recovered from ratepayers in '14 and '15
5 but not spent will be incurred in 2016."

6 A. MR. MASSIE: So what we're saying there is we
7 had approval to move ahead with the DSM program, and
8 really, the envelope was just for us, for
9 ATCO Electric. That was our approval for a residential
10 program. That is what we were approved for, and we 10:05
11 have been working with Yukon Energy in the "in charge"
12 program as a part of DSM. So we got approved our
13 program, we got given some -- or we identified some key
14 performance indicators for the DSM program, and a
15 forecast of dollars that we would need to accomplish
16 our program.

17 We had a bit of a late start in the program. It
18 started in the fall of 2014. So our -- the program was
19 approved to the end. The Board order was very clear
20 that the program was not to proceed past 2015. 10:05

21 However, given the short time frame that the program
22 was in place, about 14 months to the end of 2015, we
23 continued on with the program in 2016 as it is -- as it
24 was approved in its development. So the same targets.
25 Nothing changed. The same targets; the same budget;

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1 the same program.

2 So what we're doing is completing the program as
3 it was designed. Unfortunately, it was not complete by
4 the end of '15, but we are forecasting it to be
5 complete as designed and on budget by the end of '16.

6 A. MR. GRATTAN: Mr. Rondeau, if I might add to
7 that just to help with your understanding, if you're
8 able to pull up Schedule 8.8.

9 Q. Conspicuously absent again from my -- I have 7 and 11,
10 but I don't have 8.8. Okay.

10:07

11 A. MR. GRATTAN: If I can take you -- if I can take
12 you to lines 58 -- line 58 where it says "Demand Site
13 Management program costs."

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. MR. GRATTAN: And as Mr. Massie pointed out with
16 the delay in getting going with the program, you'll
17 note on line 60 we spent \$220,000 in calendar 2014 and
18 another \$178,000 in calendar 2015 -- sorry, 220 in
19 2014, 178 in '15.

20 Are you following me?

10:08

21 Q. Yes.

22 A. MR. GRATTAN: And then as Mr. Massie pointed
23 out, because of the delay getting going in the program,
24 we are going to wrap up what was approved by the Board
25 in 2016 with the incurrence of the final \$136,000 in

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1 calendar 2016.

2 Q. That is the actual savings approved from the -- from
3 the actuals?

4 A. MR. GRATTAN: Sorry, could you repeat? You said
5 savings?

6 Q. Yes. I mean, do your numbers match up? If you
7 subtract the actuals from the approved you get your
8 2000 and --

9 A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct.

10 Q. Okay. I think that answers a few more of my questions
11 I have down the line on that.

12 Can you provide any load reduction details for
13 2016 and '17 related to DSM by rate class?

14 A. MR. TENNEY: I'll take the first try at that
15 answer, Mr. Rondeau.

16 As we talked yesterday with Ms. Sabo regarding
17 DSM, we have filed the latest update to the 'in charge'
18 program. It was filed on October 31st. I think, it's
19 Exhibit B-14, I believe. And it does show an estimated
20 savings for the residential DSM program.

21 Q. The actual load forecast as showing the savings? Is
22 that it?

23 A. MR. TENNEY: I get nervous when you say
24 "actual." What we -- we can't tell you for sure what
25 the savings are from DSM programs. There's a number of

10:09

10:10

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1 things that we've done on the DSM program from light
2 bulbs that we've given to customers, block heaters,
3 things of that nature. So what we can tell you is the
4 numbers that we've given out.

5 There's surveys about who's using them, and so
6 then there's estimated savings, kilowatt hour savings
7 from that DSM program, but you're not -- those
8 aren't -- I wouldn't call them actual savings. You
9 can't tell for sure, but they're deemed savings from
10 that program.

10:11

11 Q. Okay. When I asked you about the details of load
12 reduction, the Board directed you to provide this
13 particular information in your 2014-'15 compliance.

14 So does this -- the report you filed with the
15 Board, does it include -- does it show this, what
16 they're actually asking you to do?

17 A. MR. TENNEY: So I'm probably going to need
18 Mr. Martino's help there. We, for sure, were directed
19 to do in the compliance filing. We had to adjust our
20 last sales forecast because we had both the residential
21 DSM program and a commercial DSM program. We had those
22 numbers. We had our sales forecast assuming both those
23 programs were in place. So we had reduced load.

10:12

24 When the Board decided that we shouldn't carry
25 forward with the commercial DSM program, we actually

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1 had to -- in our compliance filing had to outline how
2 much we were adding back into our sales forecast. Same
3 with the residential that they adjusted the residential
4 program.

5 On a go-forward basis in 2016/2017, we know that
6 there's DSM initiatives that are out there, not the
7 only in the residential space but also in the
8 commercial space. So Mr. Martino and his team had to
9 try to figure out how to capture that in his sales
10 forecast.

10:13

11 So what we've done -- and Mr. Martino will carry
12 on from here -- but that's where we've adjusted the way
13 we've done things to come up with a use per customer
14 that tries to reflect some of these savings.

15 So if you want to go further into that, I think
16 Mr. Martino can take you down that path.

17 Q. He can add a little bit, and that would be fine. It
18 helps me understand.

19 A. MR. MARTINO: Correct. So as Mr. Tenney has
20 outlined, in the previous filing we indicated that
21 there was -- there were DSM savings in our use per
22 customer. They weren't explicit.

10:13

23 Then upon compliance based on what came out of the
24 DSM impacts we had to adjust our sales forecast to
25 include the differences in what the deemed DSM savings.

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1 So they were added in the compliance filing.

2 For the purpose of this GRA, we did not explicitly
3 make any adjustments for DSM or any other conservation
4 initiatives; however, we have considered these
5 initiatives in terms of reviewing our forecast
6 methodology to understand and utilize the information
7 that's been coming through the last few years and what
8 we expect to be coming through the next few years and
9 have -- basically imbedded in our sales forecast are
10 these savings.

10:14

11 However, we are not making additional adjustments
12 to our forecast. If we were to, we would actually be
13 reducing our sales forecast.

14 Q. Okay. If you go to YUB-6, page 3, Part (c).

15 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.

16 Q. Here you state specifically: (as read)

17 "AEY does not specifically track or
18 measure the actual impact of DSM
19 initiatives for their actual sales."

20 It's an estimated deemed savings?

10:15

21 A. MR. MARTINO: Correct.

22 Q. To me that sounds pretty wishy-washy way of showing
23 that things are accountable, and that we're actually
24 going forward with DSM not backwards.

25 A. MR. MARTINO: So to clarify, we do not have the

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1 ability to measure in kilowatt hours what each of these
2 initiatives is doing. We don't have the metering
3 capability or so forth.

4 What we do is sort of a longstanding process with
5 DSM is that, based on the program and the studies and
6 the information that's put out there and the programs,
7 based on, for example, number of lights that customers
8 have purchased or LED conversion or the block heater
9 timer program, those have associated savings that come
10 with each of those purchases that customers have made.

10:16

11 And so these are what we believe are imbedded in
12 our sales because customers would have made these
13 changes to their households that would be reflected in
14 their use per customer. But we do not have the ability
15 to track and measure each of these initiatives just
16 based on the technology or other matters. So they're
17 just considered a program that has associated benefits
18 that are considered to be existing in our sales, and
19 what we consider to be ongoing.

20 Q. Okay. Can you show us some type of schedule showing
21 the number of light bulbs that have been changed and
22 how you figured your computed savings? Same with
23 timers and --

10:17

24 A. MR. MARTINO: Sure. So attached to this
25 response, if you go to Attachment YUB-YECL-6(a)

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1 Attachment 1, that one is the LED -- that's the
2 commercial program, but if we go to -- further down the
3 attachment into the "in charge."

4 Q. Can you wait just a minute, please?

5 A. MR. MARTINO: Sorry.

6 Q. What --

7 A. MR. GRATTAN: Okay. Sorry. So if you go
8 YUB-YECL-6(c), Attachment 1.

9 Q. 6. 6(c)?

10 A. MR. MARTINO: Correct. And you go to the
11 "in charge" report dated July 31, 2015.

12 Q. This is the "in charge" summary?

13 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. MR. MARTINO: Then on page 2 of that report, in
16 Table 2.

17 Q. Yes.

18 A. MR. MARTINO: There they have a summary of all
19 the savings from the different initiatives. So for
20 example, with the LED lighting, they show the lifetime
21 megawatt hours and annual megawatt hours each year. I
22 believe Year 1 is 2014 here, and moving forward. And
23 then we have a total for the total residential program
24 that shows lifetime megawatt hours savings of 6,400 in
25 Year 1 and then increasing to 9,000 in Year 2 and so

10:19

10:19

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1 on.

2 So these are the calculations that are derived
3 based on the conversions to lower efficient products
4 that customers have made and the savings that would
5 result from that.

6 Q. Okay. Thank you. That will help a lot when I do a
7 little more DSM things as well.

8 A. MR. TENNEY: At risk of muddying the waters, as
9 I usually do, that was the report that was submitted in
10 -- I think the date was July 31st, 2015. And as I 10:20
11 mentioned, we filed the latest update that we just got
12 on last Thursday. We filed it on October 31st. So
13 it's got the same numbers but with the second year of
14 the program complete.

15 Q. I see. Okay. I'll have it look at that then. Thanks.
16 UCG Number 2, Fish Lake load forecasts. System
17 expenditures, I guess. I note that in there the
18 Fish Lake plant output for 2014 is 10. -- or
19 10,247 kilowatt hours and 2015 is 9,179 kilowatt hours.

20 A. MR. MASSIE: Which -- sorry, where are you 10:22
21 getting those numbers from? I was at UCG 2.

22 Q. Fish Lake output capacity expenditures. I don't have
23 any schedule number on mine.

24 A. MR. MASSIE: Okay. I'm just catching up, I
25 believe.

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1 **So I am looking at Schedule 3.2, line 7, hydro**
2 **generation.**

3 Q. That's not the particular one I have, but it will
4 show -- it should match with this one. What I want you
5 to do is just confirm the output for 2014 and 2015.

6 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Grattan, I believe
7 Attachment 1 of UCG-AEY-2.

8 Thank you. For the record, UCG-AEY-2,
9 Attachment 1 I believe is where Mr. Rondeau is
10 referring Mr. Massie.

10:23

11 A. MR. MASSIE: **I am there.**

12 Q. MR. RONDEAU: Okay. The output. And what I
13 asked you to do was to confirm 2014 output at 10.10 --
14 10,247 kilowatt hours and 2015 at 9,179 kilowatt hours.

15 A. MR. MASSIE: **That is correct. That's what I**
16 **read in that attachment.**

17 Q. Can you give us the forecast output for Fish Lake in
18 both of the test years?

19 A. MR. MASSIE: **So I'm looking at Schedule 3.2.**
20 **Line 7 is hydro generation. And in 2016, it is 8,245**
21 **or 8.2 megawatt hours. And 8,536 for 2017.**

10:24

22 Q. Pardon me, for 2017?

23 A. MR. MASSIE: **8,536 for 2017 is the forecast.**
24 **And if -- so the lower forecast there than the actuals**
25 **really is to do with the capital builds that we are**

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1 planning or are underway and, in the case of 2016,
2 complete for the -- in the Fish Lake system. So the
3 projects we were doing we have to decrease the water
4 flow to do a bunch of the work; for example, in 2016,
5 the Ditch 3. It is a water canal, I guess, for lack of
6 a better term that directs all the water that comes out
7 of Fish Lake further down towards the hydro units. So
8 for us to do our work in there, we have to decrease the
9 water, so we shut down the output up at the Fish Lake
10 dike, lower how much water is coming out. We still
11 stay within our minimum water flows that are required
12 through our water license. Decrease the water flowing
13 so we can get that work done.

10:26

14 And the calculation -- or it's better defined, if
15 you want to look at it, in YEC-13, where we describe
16 how we came about, in full detail, everything I just
17 said there, how we came about those totals for the
18 forecasts in 2016 and 2017.

19 Q. Okay. Thank you. Are these levels the most you can
20 get from the Fish Lake plant?

10:27

21 A. MR. MASSIE: Well, for that we'll go -- if we
22 look at YUB-9(b), as in Bob, so there we really have
23 the megawatt hour production of the system if we were
24 to have no capital builds, and that number is 9,576.
25 So that would be the generation that we would -- or

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1 that we have forecast for that system as detailed in
2 that -- in the YEC-13. That's how we came up with that
3 number, is -- so that's the number that would -- that
4 the Fish Lake system would output if there was no
5 capital builds.

6 Q. Okay. That will be your maximum output capacity when
7 you're finished doing all the work?

8 A. MR. MASSIE: So -- yeah. And we looked at --
9 it's an interesting spot we're in because Fish Lake 2,
10 the Unit Number 2, we've looked at the 50-year history
11 of its output, and that's really what we have plugged
12 into our calculation. For Fish Lake 1 it's only been
13 in service since 2014, so a fairly short amount of
14 time. As with any new -- new generator out there,
15 there was a few hiccups in the first few years that
16 we've worked out, so we're still -- we don't have an
17 extended period of time with that new unit, understand
18 exactly what it will output in a year. So we've
19 looking at that two-year average, and that's all we can
20 really factor into our calculation for the first -- or
21 for Unit 1.

10:28

10:29

22 Q. Thank you. Move on to cost of service.

23 THE CHAIR: Mr. Rondeau, if you're changing
24 topics, would this be a good time for a break?

25 MR. RONDEAU: Sounds good.

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1 THE CHAIR: About 10:30 now, so we'll come
2 back at quarter to 11.

3 (ADJOURNMENT)

4 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everyone. Do we
5 have a housekeeping thing to do?

6 MR. WILLIAMS: We do, sir. I'm going to give
7 this another try for Number 1 on your list, and it is
8 the undertaking given -- the undertaking given by
9 Mr. Grattan to Mr. Marriott, page 24, lines 1 to 3.
10 And I believe that should already be in front of you on 10:57
11 the table. I've again taken the liberty to hand it out
12 to intervenors, and there should be extra copies at the
13 back of the room on the table along with the other
14 undertakings we've provided today.

15 THE CHAIR: Yes, thank you. I see. And that
16 Exhibit B-18.

17 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, sir.

18 **EXHIBIT B-18 - A RESPONSE TO**
19 **UNDERTAKING GIVEN BY MR. GRATTAN TO**
20 **MR. MARRIOTT, PAGE 24, LINES 1 TO 3** 10:58

21 THE CHAIR: All right. Mr. Rondeau, you're
22 ready to continue?

23 MR. RONDEAU: I'm ready.

24 THE CHAIR: Go ahead.

25 Q. MR. RONDEAU: We'll go on to O&M, basically

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1 labour. In an updated response to UCG-25(a), AEY
2 indicated that the number of employees earning a salary
3 of greater than \$100,000 has grown to 33 -- or is 33 in
4 2016 and will increase by one in 2017; is that correct?

5 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes, that's correct.

6 Q. Okay. Can you tell me how many employees YECL -- or
7 pardon me, AEY will have or has in 2016 and will have
8 in 2017?

9 A. MR. MASSIE: Sorry. So I point to -- point you
10 to page 1-6 of the application under "Staff Positions"
11 there. And there's a table. And the 2017 forecast
12 ending complement is 70.38.

13 Q. Okay. And can you tell me the average total income for
14 employees for the two test years?

15 A. MR. TENNEY: I don't think we have that
16 anywhere in the application that I can see,
17 Mr. Rondeau.

18 Q. Could you make that available?

19 A. MR. TENNEY: So you're looking for the total
20 labour cost divided by the number of FTEs?

21 Q. That will work. For both years.

22 A. MR. TENNEY: For '16 and '17?

23 Q. Yes.

24 A. MR. TENNEY: Okay.

25 Q. Now --

11:00

11:01

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1 MS. SABO: Sorry, just before you move on,
2 just to confirm that you're going to undertake to do
3 that, Mr. Tenney. Yes?

4 A. MR. TENNEY: Sure.

5 MS. SABO: Thank you.

6 **UNDERTAKING - TO PROVIDE THE AVERAGE**
7 **TOTAL INCOME FOR EMPLOYEES FOR THE TWO**
8 **TEST YEARS 2016 AND 2017; IN OTHER**
9 **WORDS, TO ADVISE OF THE TOTAL LABOUR**
10 **COST DIVIDED BY THE NUMBER OF FTES FOR**
11 **2016 AND 2017**

11:01

12 Q. MR. RONDEAU: All right. If I go forward, maybe
13 you'll see my reasoning. If you go back to
14 Exhibit C-210, UCG yesterday, you'll see a chart that
15 shows average weekly earnings in the Yukon, and this is
16 updated to 2016. It gives a monthly breakdown of the
17 Yukon average.

18 A. MR. GRATTAN: I'm there.

19 Q. Okay. If you average that out or look at it,
20 estimating \$1,050 per month is the average weekly
21 earnings, including overtime, and if you bring that
22 forward to a year, you would receive approximately
23 \$54,500 per year as an average income in the Yukon.

11:03

24 What I want to do is compare what your employees
25 are making in comparison to the average Yukoner.

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1 Do AEY employees participate in any type of profit
2 sharing or incentive?

3 A. MR. TENNEY: There is no profit sharing at
4 ATCO Electric Yukon.

5 Q. AEY-5(a).

6 A. MR. MASSIE: Is that UCG?

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. MR. MASSIE: All right.

9 Q. UCG-5(a). Here you state that providing details of
10 staff positions included with in-scope and out-of-scope
11 labour classifications would constitute the disclosure
12 of personnel information in contravention with the
13 *Personal Information Protection and Electronic*
14 *Documents Act*.

11:05

15 Can you explain to us a little bit more how --
16 what part of the *Personal Information Protection and*
17 *Electronic Documents Act* prevents you from providing
18 this information within a regulatory proceeding?

19 A. MR. MASSIE: Sorry. So you're asking what part
20 of that Act --

11:05

21 Q. Correct.

22 A. MR. MASSIE: -- would be contra- --

23 A. MR. TENNEY: Yeah. I'm not sure that we -- we
24 don't have the Act in front of us, and I'm not sure
25 that I could take you to where exactly it's in

1 contravention.

2 But certainly when you split out our salaries by
3 job clarifications, we've clearly got a number of job
4 clarifications where there's only one individual in
5 that job clarification. So that's, essentially, giving
6 out their salary information publicly and that just
7 doesn't sound right to us.

8 Q. I think the policy fits in with government and that as
9 well. Okay.

10 UCG-6(a). UCG-6 and Part (a) in the response,
11 where you --

11:06

12 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes.

13 Q. Are you there?

14 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes.

15 Q. You state the AUC has recently approved a 3 percent
16 labour inflationary increase in '16 and '17, and you
17 give the decisions.

18 Can you give us the current estimate for Alberta's
19 2016 annual inflation rate?

20 A. MR. TENNEY: For Alberta's?

11:07

21 Q. That's correct. What we want to see is, if you use the
22 3 percent, does it align -- does it align with the
23 inflation in Alberta or does it align with the
24 inflation in the Yukon? What I gathered from this is
25 that you want to use this 3 percent inflationary index.

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1 A. MR. TENNEY: Well, I think what we've said
2 earlier in the application -- and I'm just going to it.

3 Yeah. We've used our estimate in preparing our
4 O&M forecast was an inflation -- a labour escalation
5 rate of 3.25 percent in '16 and 3 percent in '17.

6 Q. 3.25 and 3?

7 A. MR. TENNEY: Correct.

8 Q. And I guess what probably would be -- I don't know why
9 this was mentioned in there, but what we're interested
10 in is, then, basically how these rates that you've
11 determined compare with the inflation rates in the
12 Yukon?

13 A. MR. GRATTAN: Well, the forecasted inflation
14 rates in the Yukon that we filed were 2.2 percent for
15 each of 2016 and 2017.

16 Q. So perhaps you'd like to indulge us with why your
17 forecast is so much higher.

18 A. MR. TENNEY: First of all, our labour -- a --
19 labour escalation rates for 2016 we have a collective
20 agreement in place with our employees that includes the
21 2016 year. So we've already got collective bargaining
22 that sets the 3.25 percent rate in 2016.

23 That is what we're going to pay the majority of
24 our staff. That's their escalation rate.

25 In 2017 we forecast it to be 3 percent, and that

11:09

11:09

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1 was the best information we had when we prepared our
2 forecast.

3 And the other thing that I think is important to
4 highlight -- and I think we've had this conversation in
5 the past -- is a lot of our folks when we're trying to
6 attract staff up here or trying to retain staff up
7 here, it's not necessarily the wages in the Yukon.
8 Where we're trying to attract those staff from is
9 Southern Canada. So we've got to be paying the same
10 kind of salaries that are being paid in those
11 jurisdictions if we're going to get our PLTs or our
12 technologist to stay here -- come here and/or stay
13 here.

11:10

14 Q. Okay. CW-13(b), Attachment 2, O&M expenses per
15 customer. Okay. Again, we see discrepancies between
16 actuals and approved in the '13, '14, and '15. Care to
17 explain?

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Before I let Mr. Tenney respond,
19 we've been very patient and very responsive thus far,
20 but when open-ended questions like this are being
21 asked, I start to have a little bit of an issue with
22 it.

11:12

23 If Mr. Rondeau has a specific question, I'm sure
24 anyone on this panel is happy to address it, but I
25 think I draw the line when a page reference is given

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1 and "care to explain" is the question.

2 MR. RONDEAU: Okay. That's fine.

3 Q. I'll get to my reasoning for all of this in just one
4 minute.

5 Can you tell us how this would compare with the
6 average O&M cost per customer for Yukon Energy or a
7 utility in the north?

8 A. MR. TENNEY: I don't know how it would compare
9 to Yukon Energy or any of the other utilities in the
10 north, but I'm not certain that you can do an
11 apples-to-apples comparison, certain not with Yukon
12 Energy.

11:13

13 We're really -- I would say, they're a generator
14 and a transmitter, and we're essentially a transmitter.
15 So we're really performing different functions. We're
16 not in the same communities, not in all of the same
17 communities. So it's pretty difficult to compare.

18 Q. Now, as I was saying, I'm going to get to the reasoning
19 of why I'm asking all these questions.

20 It appears that using the cost-of-service model
21 there's always a discrepancy between actuals and what
22 is approved. What it does is it brings us into a
23 conclusion that there are some problems with your
24 forecasting models.

11:14

25 Now, if you look at the evidence of the City of

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1 Whitehorse, they're seeing the same thing as we are. I
2 think basically what I would ask you on this type of
3 comment that I made is isn't the methodology that we
4 use, the cost-of-service methodology, allowing your
5 company to get a windfall at the end of the regulated
6 years?

7 A. MR. MASSIE: Well, maybe I'll try to answer
8 your question there, Mr. Rondeau.

9 So the forecasting, yes, you'll see in those
10 tables that there are puts and takes throughout those 11:15
11 operating accounts. I would take you to page 5-2 of
12 the application. And in there, you know, we state that
13 over that three-year test period of 2013, '14, and '15,
14 we were within 1.1 percent of our total O&M. So, yes,
15 in those individual accounts, there will be changes;
16 but at that high level, if that's what we want to talk
17 about, that forecasting, we're 1.1 percent on a
18 \$35 million operating budget over three years. And
19 we've also talked about CW-1 and our controllable
20 capital numbers being -- you know, we're within 11:16
21 3 percent, so I would say our forecasting is actually
22 quite good.

23 Q. On the surface, it certainly doesn't appear to be, but
24 ... And I notice that nothing was mentioned on the
25 City of Whitehorse evidence.

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1 I don't know, are they going to present something
2 for cross or to the Board?

3 THE CHAIR: City of Whitehorse has presented
4 evidence, and we'll get to that later, but at this
5 point you have this panel in front of you.

6 MR. RONDEAU: Okay.

7 Q. Just a few more things on cost of service. I'm quickly
8 getting there. Disallowed cost recovery. In the Board
9 order -- this is basically on the last rate hearing --
10 the Board Order 2014-11, that YECL back then would be 11:17
11 disallowed \$53,000 in costs that it had claimed in the
12 rate proceeding. What we would like to know is how
13 these costs have been treated and where they show up in
14 the application.

15 A. MR. GRATTAN: Sure. So when the Yukon Utilities
16 Board disallowed -- and I'm going to go subject to
17 check, because I'm taking your word that there was a
18 \$53,000 --

19 Q. Yes.

20 A. MR. GRATTAN: -- I haven't looked at 2014-11, so 11:18
21 assuming that's the correct number, that means that our
22 rates did not include \$53,000 of rate case -- rate case
23 amounts; therefore, customers will not be responsible
24 for that \$53,000. The share owner of ATCO Electric
25 Yukon will be responsible for that or is responsible

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1 **for that.**

2 Q. Okay. That's what I want to hear.

3 I guess the other thing is is there any tax
4 savings in your application, your current application,
5 related to these disallowed expenses?

6 **A. MR. GRATTAN: So when there is a disallowance,**
7 **the tax savings is incorporated into the net amount**
8 **incurred by the share owner.**

9 Q. And one small point on depreciation. UCG-29(b).
10 There's a chart on net negative salvage in (b).

11:20

11 **A. MR. GRATTAN: I'm there.**

12 Q. Can you explain how you report in your financial
13 statement disclosure the long-term liability with
14 respect to site restoration costs?

15 **A. MR. GRATTAN: So for financial statement**
16 **disclosure purposes, under IFRS, they are not reported**
17 **for financial statement disclosure purposes. It's a**
18 **regulatory account that is included in our regulatory**
19 **books, not in our financial statement books.**

20 Q. And can you tell us when the last time AEY arranged for
21 Gannet Fleming or a company, consultant company, to
22 calculate your site restoration costs?

11:21

23 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Gannet Fleming was engaged as part**
24 **of our 2013 to '15 general rate application to help us**
25 **with our depreciation study that included, at that**

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1 point, forecasts of net negative salvage tied to site
2 restoration. That was the last time they were engaged.

3 Q. Nothing for this review?

4 A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct.

5 Q. So that was internally done?

6 A. MR. GRATTAN: Well, the Board has as part of the
7 '13 to '15 decision stated that a depreciation will not
8 include any amount for net negative salvage, so there
9 was nothing to update. We're just drawing down a
10 balance that had accumulated prior to that point in
11 time, which is what this table is showing.

11:23

12 Q. Okay. Is there anything brought forward to 2016 then?

13 A. MR. GRATTAN: No, there is not.

14 Q. And '17 are both zero?

15 A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct.

16 Q. I don't know how far the Board is going to let me try
17 on this, but I'm going to try anyway. It's regarding
18 secondary power.

19 I guess our concern is everybody else's rates --
20 we haven't done anything with secondary power for quite
21 some time, 2005, I believe, was the last time the
22 secondary power rates were set.

11:23

23 What's concerning to us is not so much the
24 government and the City's buildings that are on
25 secondary power because we get a tax break on that

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1 somehow. It helps everybody.

2 But when private enterprise can take advantage of
3 this, it seems to be a very unfair advantage that their
4 prices go down and ours go -- the rest of the
5 commercial sector's go up.

6 Is this a good premise? I guess what I'm asking
7 you: Is it a fair -- is it a fair process?

8 **A. MR. TENNEY:** Well, again, secondary sales is
9 really -- it's a Phase 2 matter, and we're really going
10 to be difficult to be comment on what's fair, what
11 isn't fair. We haven't cast our mind to looking at
12 rate schedules.

11:25

13 And as you're no doubt aware, the logic or the
14 rationale for setting those rate was in a previous
15 proceeding, and it was really with Yukon Energy and
16 Yukon Electrical both in attendance.

17 So we're going to struggle to answer your
18 questions on that here, Mr. Rondeau.

19 **Q.** That's what I was expecting to hear, but I thought I
20 would get in there anyway.

11:25

21 The only other question I have here is I realize
22 that YECL is the one who distributes most of this
23 secondary power, because it's mostly in Whitehorse. Am
24 I correct? You distribute it?

25 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Yes. In Whitehorse, but there are

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1 secondary sales customers outside of Whitehorse, to be
2 clear.

3 Q. Okay. But the majority is --

4 A. MR. MASSIE: Yes.

5 Q. -- here.

6 I just want to get hold of -- this is just for
7 heating. Am I correct? Heating purposes only?

8 A. MR. MASSIE: Yeah. There is for space heating
9 and process heating, I believe the rate schedule
10 states.

11:26

11 Q. Process heating?

12 A. MR. MASSIE: I believe that's what the schedule
13 states again.

14 Q. Can you fill us in what that means a little bit?

15 A. MR. MASSIE: Well, again, it's Yukon Energy's
16 rate schedule. So I don't think I even have it.

17 Yeah. So it states: (as read)

18 "Electric users displacing fuel sources,
19 alternative fuel sources as well as
20 capable of providing the same quantity
21 of space and process heating in the
22 event of electric power interruptions."

11:27

23 To quote just a bit of it.

24 Q. Yeah. I have problems with that. I just don't
25 understand where -- it should be one or the other,

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1 either space heating or process heating.

2 To me process heating means that they can use that
3 in their business to -- to lower their prices for their
4 product?

5 **A. MR. TENNEY:** And I think the premise behind it
6 is they're interruptible. So they've got a secondary
7 source. So it's not -- they've got to be able to have
8 an alternative to switch if that product's not there.

9 **Q.** I understand.

10 **A. MR. TENNEY:** And it's got to be incremental to
11 what would have otherwise been consumed.

12 But, again, the whole rationale behind it has got
13 to be something that we've look at in a Phase 2
14 process, not here.

15 **Q.** The last thing, then, before I move on to the next one
16 is, how are these metered at the source? How do you
17 know for sure that they're just using it for heat
18 processing or heat? Are there two separate meters?

19 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Yes. The secondary sales
20 customers are metered separately. That account is
21 metered separately. So each one of these customers'
22 premises would have two meters. So one specific to
23 their secondary heating, whatever they're using that
24 for.

25 And, again, that's going to be built to the

11:28

11:28

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1 electrical code, inspected by the electrical inspector.
2 We get the permit before we hook it up, and it's the
3 same revenue meter that we would use on any other
4 service.

5 Q. My next one was DSM, and I think I pretty well went
6 through that. I just have to quickly look here.

7 I guess there's one more thing, and that is
8 Schedule 8.8. We looked at that, actually. I think,
9 Mr. Grattan brought us to that, explaining.

10 A. **MR. GRATTAN:** **We have it.**

11:30

11 Q. Yes. From your explanation, the way I understood it is
12 that, going forward, the savings will be in the 2016
13 and 2017.

14 A. **MR. GRATTAN:** **What do you mean by "savings"?**

15 Q. Well, the approved from the actuals in the two test
16 years before where -- there was a discrepancy, and this
17 will be realigned in '16 and '17.

18 A. **MR. GRATTAN:** **Yes. The actual balances for all**
19 **of the deferred charges and credits are used as the**
20 **starting point for the forecasts for '16 and '17.**

11:31

21 Q. Okay. Meters. UCG-41(a). And also, I believe, the
22 attachments that follow -- I'll go to that later.
23 Let's just look at one thing at a time here.

24 If you look at Number 1, UCG asked to provide the
25 details where these expenditures were made and why this

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1 actual expenditures were so much lower than forecast or
2 allowed.

3 Now, your response did not really answer this
4 question.

5 **A. MR. MASSIE:** So I'm at 41(a). Specifically
6 what are you looking for, Mr. Rondeau?

7 Q. What I'm looking for is the details where these
8 expenditures were made and why they're so much lower
9 than forecast.

10 **MR. WILLIAMS:** Sir, if we're now at the point of
11 just reiterating or re-asking information requests,
12 then again, I'm going to have to intervene.

11:33

13 If Mr. Rondeau had an issue with the answer that
14 was provided to the information request, there's an
15 avenue for him to address that, but simply asking the
16 witness to re-answer the same question that's already
17 been replied to or responded to is not a productive use
18 of our time, I would suggest.

19 **THE CHAIR:** Yes. There is an answer here on
20 the record, Mr. Rondeau. So is there something in that
21 answer that you wanted to -- a little bit more on? It
22 seems like it's there.

11:33

23 Q. **MR. RONDEAU:** Okay. If look at the 9.2,
24 Schedule 9.2, page 5, again we see discrepancies in
25 approved versus actuals. Can you explain that for us?

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1 THE CHAIR: How about we ask a question about
2 it. Is there one of these that you would like them to
3 explain the difference in, as opposed to -- I'm mindful
4 of Mr. Williams' objection previously. So you could
5 ask them a specific question.

6 MR. RONDEAU: Well, simply look at one of the
7 years and give us the reasons why.

8 THE CHAIR: Well, give them a year and ask
9 them.

10 MR. RONDEAU: That's fine.

11 Q. 2014.

12 MR. RONDEAU: Mr. James has done that several
13 times on other occasions, so...

14 A. MR. MASSIE: So what we try to do in that
15 answer to 41(a), really define -- the meters are a
16 combination of new meters that we purchase to install
17 for new customers and new extensions. So that was
18 really what we tried to point out there, is that our
19 forecast for new extensions was obviously not correct,
20 as had been pointed out earlier. We base that on as
21 good information as we had, but the developments did
22 not materialize. So the new -- that many -- there
23 wasn't as many new customers as were expected, so the
24 new meters weren't replaced.

25 Q. Do you have a procurement process and policy for the

11:35

11:35

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1 purchase of new meters?

2 A. MR. MASSIE: Well, there is a set program, but
3 our metering services are delivered through the
4 federally accredited meter shop of ATCO Electric's in
5 Grande Prairie. So they handle the inventory, the
6 ordering, and the -- really all the Measurement Canada
7 mandatory testing and exchanges of meters is all
8 handled through that shop. So they will handle the
9 procurement of new meters and passing them on to us.

10 Q. So you purchase them basically from an affiliate?

11:37

11 A. MR. MASSIE: Well, yeah, they're -- they handle
12 our meter inventory. It is ATCO Electric Yukon meter
13 inventory. But them being a federally accredited the
14 shop, they handle that for us.

15 Q. What I'm trying to get a handle on is do they get a
16 middleman --

17 A. MR. GRATTAN: No.

18 Q. -- rate for this?

19 A. MR. GRATTAN: It's at cost. And the good news
20 story about that is that we've got access to
21 ATCO Electric's volumes, so it's actually a significant
22 benefit for ATCO Electric Yukon.

11:37

23 Q. Is this the same process that you have for transformers
24 and regulators? Is it handled by...

25 A. MR. MASSIE: Yes. Yes.

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1 Q. It's handled by your...

2 A. MR. MASSIE: The majority are. Large
3 transformers, substation transformers we definitely
4 have our own specs, and that we will order ourselves.
5 Again, utilizing the cost efficiencies of a larger
6 utility, a lot of material is flowed -- or we get our
7 material through the ATCO Electric warehousing
8 division.

9 Q. Okay. If I look at -- or if we look at Schedule 9.2 --
10 pardon me, Schedule 41(c), Attachment 1. You give us
11 various breakdowns for the years on the purchases of
12 meters. Now, if I look at these --

13 MS. SABO: I'm sorry, Mr. Rondeau. We're not
14 catching where you're at. So is that an IR response
15 attachment?

16 MR. RONDEAU: Sorry. Yes.

17 MS. SABO: And is that a response to UCG?

18 MR. RONDEAU: 41(c).

19 MS. SABO: Thank you.

20 MR. RONDEAU: You have to bear with me, I'm
21 getting a bit tired here. I'm almost done.

22 THE CHAIR: Okay. So 41(c). Which page?

23 MR. RONDEAU: Just looking through these
24 19 pages of various costs for meters.

25 Q. The prices are all over the board, from anywhere from

11:39

11:39

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1 \$30 to \$300. Can you tell us why there's such a
2 discrepancy in the price of meters that you're
3 purchasing?

4 **A. MR. MASSIE:** So, well, the lower ones, the \$30
5 ones, really will be very simple -- your residential
6 meter, very straightforward, not very intricate,
7 compared to the \$300 meters that are usually made for
8 commercial sites or installed in commercial sites. So
9 they -- yeah, a large facility would be metered, so it
10 has a lot more, for lack of a better -- it has a lot
11 more internal components to it to ensure that it's able
12 to analyze a three-phase service and accurately meter
13 it.

11:40

14 **Q.** Okay. That's what I thought.

15 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Yeah, and good point. Mr. Tenney
16 pointed out they also have an energy and demand
17 component compared to the residential meters, which are
18 very straightforward energy meters.

19 **Q.** Okay. Now one last thing. Note that you're changing
20 all your meters to Itron or Waterhouse meters, and
21 these changes are from -- into analogue from digital --
22 or from analogue to digital. What I'd like to know,
23 the meters that you're purchasing, are they bridge
24 meters? Are they adaptable to going forward, smart
25 meters or...

11:41

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1 A. MR. MASSIE: No, the meters we purchase now
2 basically -- and I'm checking in with our meter shop
3 the other day. The last analogue residential meters we
4 purchased were in 1999. They become less and less
5 available really because the new -- newer electronic
6 meters are much more accurate and they have less
7 internal losses. So instead of energy that's spent
8 spinning that dial, it's very -- more energy efficient,
9 the meter itself. A lot more accurate. So they're
10 very simple electronic meters. There's no -- they're
11 not smart meters in any manner. Again, there's a whole
12 lot of things that a smart meter can be. These meters
13 are simply measuring the use that goes into a
14 customer's premises.

11:42

15 Q. In other words, they're not adaptable?

16 A. MR. MASSIE: I'm not sure -- adaptable to what?

17 Q. You'd have to change if you -- if we went into a smart
18 meter phase, you'll have to change these meters again?

19 A. MR. MASSIE: Well, in the -- we do have or we
20 are looking at a smart grid study next year with
21 Yukon Energy to look at -- there's so many different
22 variable things that a smart meter and smart grid can
23 do. These, no, will not have any ability to integrate
24 with that smart grid at all.

11:43

25 Q. So you can't connect or disconnect remotely with these

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1 meters that you're replacing?

2 A. MR. MASSIE: The current meters that we have
3 and use and continue to use are -- they don't have any
4 of those capabilities, remote disconnect, and I guess I
5 should clarify. If there was a smart grid and we move
6 forward with that, these meters can still accurately
7 measure energy of a customer's premise. They just
8 won't be able to communicate.

9 Q. Fish Lake. We went into that a little before. JM-17,
10 Schedule 9.2, capital additions be referenced, and it
11 shows a breakdown of the yearly amounts spent on
12 Fish Lake.

13 A. MR. MASSIE: I am there.

14 Q. Okay. I believe my -- if my addition is correct, it's
15 approximately 14 million that's already been spent.

16 A. MR. MASSIE: Which -- in that whole table from
17 20- --

18 Q. If you from '11 to '15.

19 A. MR. MASSIE: 2011?

20 Q. From 2011 to 2015.

21 A. MR. MASSIE: Not the 2010 where --

22 Q. '10. Sorry. From 2010.

23 A. MR. MASSIE: I hear our calculator. So...

24 2010 to '15 was -- the number we have is a little
25 bit lower than that, for sure.

11:44

11:45

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1 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** Subject to check, it looks like
2 about 10.6 million.

3 **Q.** Okay. Probably I added both test period years as well.
4 Okay. Out of this 10.6 million, has all of that
5 been approved and gone into rate base?

6 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** No. So as part of this
7 proceeding, we are seeking to include the actual
8 amounts incurred in the years '13, '14, and '15 as part
9 of our going-in rate base to set rates for '16 and '17.
10 So that's part of this proceeding.

11:47

11 **Q.** Has there been cost overruns in any of these work
12 performances that you've completed?

13 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Yeah. We've detailed those in the
14 attachments. So the dike in Attachment 11.1 had a cost
15 overrun from the approved dollars we had for '13 and
16 '14 to the actuals that were incurred.

17 **Q.** Attachment 11.1?

18 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Yeah. 11.1. That's a section
19 where we identified the projects where we had cost
20 variances and detailed the reasons why.

11:47

21 **Q.** Okay. I've already asked how much capacity you expect
22 to get out of that.

23 One more, and it's the RID claims. They were
24 brought up yesterday by the City of Whitehorse. I just
25 have a few other questions.

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1 My first question is, exactly how does the reserve
2 for injuries and damages get financed?

3 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** So the reserve for injuries and
4 damages is financed via customers. So it's part of our
5 rate base. So we make a forecast of what we anticipate
6 will be incurred in the reserve for the forecast
7 period, and what actually happens is trued up via the
8 reserve.

9 So customers pay no more or no less than what is
10 approved as part of regulatory proceedings such as this
11 tied to reserve for injuries and damages incidents.

12 **Q.** Is this documented anywhere, the actual that...

13 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** Yes. One moment.

14 So if I could take you to Schedule 8.4, and on
15 line -- lines 25 through 30 of Schedule 8.4, we detail
16 the continuity of what was forecast to be incurred or
17 included in the RIDs, what was included in rates versus
18 what was actually incurred.

19 **Q.** Schedule 8.4?

20 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** Correct. Lines 25 through 30.

21 **Q.** Okay. I'll have a look at that. I don't have it in
22 front of me.

23 I gather this is -- it's a type of insurance?

24 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** Self-insurance, yes.

25 **Q.** Self-insurance.

11:49

11:51

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1 I guess my question is why wouldn't it be covered
2 under ATCO insurance?

3 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** So there's two things. There's
4 either -- reserve for injuries and special damages is
5 used to address events that are either insurable or not
6 insured. So if a decision is made not to insure it, we
7 go to the self-insurance reserve for injuries and
8 damages either because insurance is too extensive or
9 not available.

10 Or, secondly, even if an item is insured, you can
11 have a deductible tied to that, and the deductible goes
12 through the reserve for injuries and damages.

13 **Q.** The one I'm most concerned with, of course, is the
14 remediation we have to do for fuel spill on one of your
15 houses. I just don't understand why a home occupied by
16 one of your personnel should be covered -- this should
17 be covered by ATCO insurance, not by the ratepayers.
18 Can you --

19 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** Well, insurance -- pollution
20 insurance on the property is -- is either not available
21 or prohibitively expensive. So if and when there is an
22 incident, a long time ago a decision was made not to
23 have pollution insurance coverage on your property. We
24 do have insurance in place if the pollution, God
25 forbid, was to make its way into another piece of

11:52

11:53

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1 property or a water body and leave the premises.

2 And just to be clear, this was a company house --

3 Q. Decision --

4 A. MR. GRATTAN: -- ATCO Electric Yukon house that
5 was lived in by our staff member in Beaver Creek over
6 many years.

7 Q. I understand that. I just would like to ask why you
8 expect ratepayers to pay for your company's --
9 basically human error, the way I see it, of not
10 properly monitoring the fuel tank. And in the case of 11:54
11 the damage in Fish Lake -- I'm trying to find that,
12 where there was a spillway failure. So, again, this
13 is -- it's human error caused by the company itself.
14 It's not -- it should not be something that ratepayers
15 pay for. So I'm asking you why you would ask your
16 ratepayers.

17 A. MR. MASSIE: So specifically for the
18 Beaver Creek incident, it was a -- the cause of the
19 incident was there was a pinhole leak in the tank, the
20 very bottom of the tank underneath the tank. So when 11:55
21 we -- again, the coupling that comes out, the fuel
22 filter that is there, the most probable areas that
23 failures have happened, that gets inspected. The
24 underneath of the tank, a pinhole leak developed under
25 there. Yes, it was underneath out of sight, so not

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1 really sure what inspection we can do on that
2 underneath side.

3 Q. I'm just curious about the person who was living there.
4 You said that the tank was right beside the sidewalk
5 that was cleaned regularly. Now, any time that I have
6 seen property with a tank, when you walk by it, you
7 know right away if there's a leak. I mean, you can
8 smell. Diesel is very -- so I'm asking why this person
9 wouldn't have noticed it much sooner.

10 A. MR. MASSIE: Yeah, I can't speak for that
11 person, why they didn't notice it sooner. I know that
12 the pinhole leak developed in an area that's not --
13 that you can't see by standing beside the tank. It
14 developed at the bottom end of it. The probable areas
15 of failure are the areas that good inspected regularly.
16 Those are the things I do know.

11:56

17 Q. But it's 110 -- it obviously was leaking for quite some
18 time if there's \$110,000 worth of damages.

19 A. MR. MASSIE: Well, it's -- I believe the rate
20 identified 600 litres of fuel oil. So, yeah, the cost
21 really isn't as much to the size of the release as much
22 as, you know, how much we had to contain and clean up
23 after the fact, but it was approximately 600 litres is
24 what was identified.

11:57

25 MR. RONDEAU: That's all. Thank you.

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1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Rondeau.

2 Mr. Maissan, seeing the time, would it make more
3 sense to begin right after lunch?

4 MR. MAISSAN: That's fine with me.

5 THE CHAIR: So we went a little long on our
6 morning break, so why don't we come back a little bit
7 earlier, so say quarter past 1? Would that suit
8 everyone?

9 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, sir.

10 THE CHAIR: All right. So quarter past 1.
11 Thank you.

12 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 11:58 A.M.)

13

14 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED TO 1:15 P.M.

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16

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24

25

11:58

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1 Volume 2
2 November 2, 2016
3 P.M. Session

4

5 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AT 1:17 P.M.)

6 THE CHAIR: So I see we have another
7 undertaking here; right?

8 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, we do, sir. It is, I
9 believe, Number 6 on your list, and it is an
10 undertaking provided by Mr. Massie to Mr. Marriott and
11 is found at page 123, lines 13 to 17 of the transcript.

13:17

12 And I have provided those to the intervenors, and
13 there are a couple extra copies at the back for anyone
14 that needs one.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

16 So we'll assign that Exhibit B-19.

17 **EXHIBIT B-19 - RESPONSE TO**
18 **UNDERTAKING 6, FROM MR. MASSIE TO**
19 **MR. MARRIOTT, PAGE 123, LINES 13 TO 17**

20 THE CHAIR: So are there any other
21 housekeeping items now?

13:17

22 MR. WILLIAMS: That's all for now, sir.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

24 Mr. Maissan, are you ready to proceed?

25 MR. MAISSAN: I am.

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1 THE CHAIR: Start.

2 **MR. MAISSAN CROSS-EXAMINES THE PANEL:**

3 Q. All right. I have four items I'd like to ask questions
4 on. And these are follow-up from the cross-examination
5 that has taken place to this point in time.

6 You probably recall yesterday the discussion about
7 the reduced capital expenditures on distribution
8 extensions, customer extensions in particular. And
9 that they were well below what you forecast to be.

10 I recall during the last GRA having a discussion
11 about staffing levels; and, in part, the staffing
12 levels projected were a reflection of the amount of
13 capital work that needed to be done.

13:18

14 So given that there were significance reduction in
15 customer distribution work, did ATCO at any time reduce
16 staff because of that reduced level of capital
17 activity?

18 A. MR. MASSIE: No. There was no reduction in
19 staff levels due to a decrease in new extensions.

20 Q. Okay. And can you explain why not? If a number of
21 staff are involved in capital and the capital goes
22 down, can one not expect a reduction in staffing
23 levels?

13:19

24 A. MR. MASSIE: I would say for certain capital
25 programs that would be fairly accurate; however, for

1 new extensions and especially the big programs we were
2 looking at back when we were forecasting in late 2012
3 and early 2013, we looked at, again, the new extensions
4 that we had in 2011 and 2012, and they're fairly
5 significant. They're forecast to continue, and they
6 were really focused -- a major part of them was focused
7 around Whistle Bend subdivision.

8 And when those new extensions are built in that
9 subdivision, we primarily use contractors. So because
10 it's an underground subdivision, there's civil
11 contractors already in there working for the developer,
12 and we work in tandem with them to put in a lot of the
13 civil infrastructure at time. And then we use contract
14 line contractors to do the cabling and the electrical
15 equipment and termination and that type of...

16 Q. So the reduction in work, then, was to contractors as
17 opposed to staff or a greater reduction in contract
18 work than in staff work which reduced number of
19 extensions, if I'm hearing correctly.

20 A. MR. MASSIE: Yes. And -- yes. It's the
21 reduction. That is our -- you know, we employ the use
22 of contractors for peaks in workload. And,
23 incidentally, you know, I think about -- in that time
24 period with the slowdown that the -- the one line
25 contractor that was -- had been in the Yukon for some

13:20

13:20

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1 years of years is no -- left the Yukon. Just there was
2 a lack of work, and they went elsewhere.

3 Q. Right. Thank you.

4 The second question I had related to the ATCO name
5 change, and at first I thought the answer was quite
6 clear, but now I'm not so sure.

7 I'm looking at interrogatory JM-10. That's in
8 Exhibit B-5, responses to John Maissan's information
9 request, and I'm also looking at the application on
10 Schedule 5.2, page 2 of 3, which is pdf page 79 out of
11 292.

13:22

12 If I understood correctly from the discussion
13 yesterday, then, the name change to ATCO Electric Yukon
14 was not part of the cost included in O&M costs.

15 I see in the response to my IR JM-10, the last
16 paragraph is says that the name change were not
17 included in forecast cost; and, therefore, customers
18 have not paid for these costs in rates.

19 Yet in Schedule 5.2 of the application on page 2
20 of 3, line 54, general public information, it says:
21 (as read)

13:22

22 "Cost increases from 2013 to '14 due to
23 change required on communication
24 materials and billing system relating
25 changing '1st Street' to 'Front

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1 Street'" -- and it gives 28,000 -- "and
2 for changing the operating name from
3 'Yukon Electrical Company Limited' to
4 'ATCO Electric Yukon.'"

5 That implies to me that it is included in that actual
6 for 2014, that 169; is that correct? Is the cost for
7 the change in name included in that 169?

8 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** So, yes. And, as we noted in the
9 response to your interrogatory, the incremental cost to
10 change our name -- the costs that were incurred were
11 not included in the forecast costs submitted as part of
12 the 2013-'15 GRA. So customer rates did not reflect
13 those costs being forecast.

13:23

14 **Q.** Right. But the actual cost incurred, which is part of
15 the 169, is part of the cost that is being recovered or
16 was recovered from rates?

17 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** No.

18 **Q.** I don't understand how you can have a number here as an
19 O&M cost that is not recovered from rates. I can
20 understand if your O&M cost is below forecast, and you
21 include something else in it, and it's still below
22 forecast. It's still being recovered; correct? It's
23 only when costs exceed forecast costs, and they are not
24 recovered through rate that it is not really paid for
25 by customers; correct?

13:24

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1 A. MR. GRATTAN: You said a lot there.

2 Q. Yeah.

3 A. MR. GRATTAN: So the simple response to the
4 question goes back to the original IR response,
5 JM-80(y)(10), and -- where we state that the forecasted
6 costs that were included in rates for the year '14 did
7 not include any rebranding costs.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. MR. GRATTAN: So --

10 Q. I can understand that. That's clear.

13:25

11 A. MR. GRATTAN: And then what actually happens is
12 we spent more money on rebranding, which is to the
13 account of the share owner.

14 A. MR. TENNEY: And I think the part that I would
15 just add there, Mr. Maissan, is the revenue requirement
16 did not include those costs. It's that revenue
17 requirement that the rates are designed on. So the
18 rates are designed not to recover that amount of cost.
19 So what actually happens, then, is not -- customers
20 aren't paying for it. They were paying for what was
21 forecast in revenue requirement.

13:25

22 Q. So if the name change was not included in your actual
23 2014 cost, the 169 number would have been lower;
24 correct? And then by difference, your return on equity
25 would have been higher; is that correct?

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1 A. MR. GRATTAN: The return on equity would have
2 been slightly higher --

3 Q. Slightly higher?

4 A. MR. GRATTAN: In 2014, yes.

5 Q. Yes. Okay.

6 A. MR. GRATTAN: That has nothing to do with
7 customer -- what customers were -- what customer rates
8 were based on for 2014.

9 Q. I can understand what customer rates were based on, but
10 I'm trying to understand whether customers actually
11 paid for it, and it seems to me they --

12 A. MR. GRATTAN: They did not.

13 Q. It seems to me they did if it's part of the 169.

14 A. MR. TENNEY: I don't know that we can do -- I
15 guess we may just disagree on this. We think customers
16 pay for what's included in our revenue requirement.
17 That's what their rates are designed on, and that's the
18 rates that the Public Utilities Board sets. Then what
19 the actual costs are, they are customers -- their rates
20 don't go up or don't go down based on the actual costs
21 that we incur. Our earnings go up or down, but that
22 isn't what customers paid on.

23 MR. MAISSAN: Okay. I think -- I think we'll
24 leave it there, Mr. Chair.

25 Q. The next question I have is related to return on

13:26

13:27

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1 equity. I'm now looking at IR YUB-YECL-63. That's in
2 Exhibit B-9, pdf page 352 out of the 414. On page 2 of
3 2 in Item (b) for Bob, you list the return on equities
4 actually earned over the past five years from 2011 to
5 2015. And I was wondering if you would accept
6 subject -- well, you probably know this. The return on
7 equity that was approved 2013 to 2015 is 8.75 percent;
8 is that correct?

9 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Yes.**

10 Q. Yes. Okay. So subject to check, if I look back on
11 other records, I see that the return on equity for 2010
12 was 10.54 percent, would you accept that subject to
13 check?

13:28

14 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Yes, subject to check.**

15 Q. And for 2009, subject to check, 11.35 percent?

16 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Subject to check.**

17 Q. Subject to check. Thank you.

18 The last question I have is in relation to
19 Schedule 9 of the application, Schedule 9.1, and there
20 was a brief discussion about the schedule this morning,
21 and I want to make sure I understood correctly. I
22 understood Mr. Rondeau to be asking about the
23 difference between actual 2013 and actual -- and
24 approved 2013 transfers to rate base, and we see the
25 actual was 14 million, 321, the approved was

13:29

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1 19 million, 792 at line 31.

2 A. MR. GRATTAN: Yes.

3 Q. I think I heard that part of the explanation was that
4 the difference is, in part, customer contributions, and
5 I just want to make sure I understood that correctly
6 because I had assumed that any transfers to rate base
7 were net of customer contributions.

8 A. MR. GRATTAN: So I'm not sure I can --

9 Q. So in --

10 A. MR. GRATTAN: -- you thought you heard.

13:30

11 Q. Yeah.

12 A. MR. GRATTAN: So with respect to this schedule,
13 this schedule deals with plant additions, which is the
14 capital side of the equation.

15 Q. Correct?

16 A. MR. GRATTAN: There's also a contribution side
17 that's handled in a separate schedule.

18 Q. So are you saying that these numbers, 14 million, 321
19 actual is net of contribution or is not net of
20 contributions?

13:30

21 A. MR. GRATTAN: Let me just double-check, please.
22 So if you go to Schedule 8.6.

23 Q. I have it.

24 A. MR. GRATTAN: And we'll just use 2013 as an
25 example. Transfer to rate base is -- on an actual

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1 **basis is \$14,321,000.**

2 Q. I see that, yes.

3 **A. MR. GRATTAN: If you go to Schedule 8.6, that is**
4 **just dealing with capital additions. So that's**
5 **property, plant, and equipment. It is not including**
6 **contributions.**

7 Q. So what you're saying is that there are no customer
8 contributions that apply to this -- this heading of
9 "Property, Plant, and Equipment"?

10 **A. MR. GRATTAN: On Schedule 9.1? Yes.**

13:32

11 Q. Right. So this is net of --

12 **A. MR. GRATTAN: That's gross.**

13 Q. Yeah. So there are customer contributions that deduct
14 from this in terms of your net rate base?

15 **A. MR. GRATTAN: I'm not -- okay. I've got to make**
16 **sure that --**

17 Q. I want to make sure I get this right too. So we have
18 additions of 14,321,000, and I thought that was
19 transferred to rate base; but where you have, for
20 instance, new extensions and you get a customer
21 contribution of 80 percent of the extension, what is
22 actually transferred to rate base is net of customer
23 contributions, is it not?

13:33

24 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Ultimately what goes into rate**
25 **base is net of customer contributions, and maybe I can**

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1 help here if we go to yet another schedule.

2 Q. Sure.

3 A. MR. GRATTAN: If I could take you to
4 Schedule 8.5.

5 Q. 8.5. I have it. Yes.

6 A. MR. GRATTAN: And Schedule 8.5 you've got
7 calculations that detail gross rate base, if you can
8 see that on line 14?

9 Q. Yes, I see that.

10 A. MR. GRATTAN: And then thereafter we are
11 deducting contributions in aid of construction. That's
12 lines 16, 17, 18, and 19.

13 Q. I see that.

14 A. MR. GRATTAN: And then those figures for
15 contribution in aid for construction are used to
16 determine what ATCO Electric Yukon's net rate base is
17 at the end of the year. So you've got gross property,
18 plant, and equipment less contributions in aid of
19 construction resulting in net rate base.

20 Q. Right. So the Schedule 9.1 I was looking at, then this
21 transfer is rate base is transferred there, and then
22 deductions for contributions are made afterwards; is
23 that correct?

24 A. MR. GRATTAN: As I've noted in Schedule 8.5.

25 Q. Thank you.

13:34

13:34

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1 I would now like to go to a YUB interrogatory,
2 YUB-YECL-2. That's in Exhibit B-9. And in particular,
3 I want to talk about the part -- the response to
4 Parts (c), for Charlie, and (d) for dog.

5 In that response examples of Board orders or
6 legislative changes that have historically impacted AEY
7 include the micro-generation policy and the Commercial
8 Energy Incentive Programs. Then later in a response to
9 a Board order, you've provided some more detailed
10 information. And so I just want to -- I want to
11 examine that. 13:36

12 In that further response that's in Exhibit B-11,
13 you mention a number of 11,833 kilowatt hours as being
14 the micro-generation program -- as being a reduction in
15 sales due to the micro-generation program. That is
16 correct right?

17 **A. MR. TENNEY:** I'm sorry, Mr. Maissan. You
18 jumped pretty fast.

19 **Q.** I'm sorry.

20 **A. MR. TENNEY:** YUB-2. 13:36

21 **Q.** Yes. YUB-2. And the follow up to Board order which
22 is Exhibit B-11 you provide first details on that
23 response. Right?

24 **A. MR. MARTINO:** Is that YUB-6?

25 **Q.** YUB-6 was provided right at the outset, and it

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1 contains, I think, similar information.

2 Yes. YUB-6 on page 3 of 4 at the top, there is a
3 quote there:

4 "AEY has estimated the amount of
5 electricity reduced to be approximately
6 11,833 kilowatt hours on customer-side
7 of the meter for 2015..."

8 **A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.**

9 Q. Okay. In response to an IR at -- that I submitted,
10 IR 5(c), (d), and that's found in Exhibit B-5.

13:37

11 Do you want to find that, or do you have it?

12 **A. MR. MARTINO: So which IR response is that?**

13 Q. IR JM-AEY-5(c), for Charlie, (d) for dog?

14 **A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.**

15 Q. There is that table, and if I understand this table
16 correctly, you detail the reduced sales. And then you
17 also detail the resale power, which is the exports to
18 the grid from these micro-generation projects. And
19 then at the very end, at the very right side, you have
20 net cost or benefit for 2014 and 2015.

13:38

21 If I read this table correctly, what this table is
22 saying is that there is, in fact, a net benefit to
23 ATCO Electric Yukon. Am I reading that correctly?

24 It seems to me it says there's a net benefit of
25 2,417 in 2014 and a net benefit of \$6,590 in 2015 as a

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1 result of the micro-generation program. Am I correct?

2 A. MR. TENNEY: Sorry. I just need to take a look
3 at this for a bit.

4 Q. Sure.

5 A. MR. TENNEY: I guess I'm going to be the lucky
6 one to try and tackle this, and I'm not really familiar
7 with all the details on.

8 But I would think that's what that chart is
9 showing in that when we have a customer that puts on a
10 roof top solar, if it's in Whitehorse, we're obviously
11 going to have less sales, we're going to have less
12 purchase power cost. And I think the utility companies
13 benefit in that it's actually the government that pays
14 any surplus power that's generated. It is the
15 government that's paying -- I believe it's 21 cents a
16 kilowatt hour on the main grid, and I think it's
17 31 cents a kilowatt hour, if my memory is correct, in
18 the isolated -- or the communities with diesel
19 generation. So I think that's what this table is
20 trying to show.

21 Q. Right. So it shows a net financial benefit to
22 ATCO Electric Yukon because the government is paying
23 for that purchased power, which you then can resell to
24 other customers.

25 A. MR. TENNEY: I'm going to say -- subject to

13:40

13:40

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1 check, I'm going to need to go back and confirm this,
2 but I think that's what this table is showing,
3 Mr. Maissan.

4 Q. Thank you. The next thing I would like to --

5 A. MR. GRATTAN: Just one moment, please.

6 Q. Yes.

7 A. MR. TENNEY: Sorry.

8 Q. Anything further to add?

9 A. MR. TENNEY: No. Again, just like I said, I'm
10 not positive -- I apologize. I should understand this
11 table better, but I'm struggling with exactly what it
12 says.

13 I think it says what you stated, but I need to go
14 back and talk to some of my staff, and I may come back
15 with a clarification tomorrow or later today at the
16 break, after the break.

17 Q. Okay. Is that formally considered an undertaking to --
18 or...

19 MR. WILLIAMS: I believe it's subject to check.

20 MS. SABO: That's correct. It's a subject to
21 check, as Mr. Tenney stated.

22 MR. MAISSAN: Fair enough. Thank you.

23 Q. The next thing I would like to talk about is your
24 proposed renewable and alternative energy study, which
25 is found in the Application Section 12, which is

13:42

13:43

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1 Exhibit BB-1, I believe, and in particular, starting on
2 page 12-2 of that section.

3 A. MR. TENNEY: I have that now.

4 Q. You have that. Yes.

5 Reading that first page, I get the impression that
6 ATCO wishes to develop renewable energy such as wind
7 and solar. Am I correct in that? In that
8 understanding from that first paragraph?

9 A. MR. TENNEY: The first paragraph that says in,
10 "Addition to applying to the Board"?

13:44

11 Q. No. Starting on page 12-2 under renewable and
12 alternative energy study starting at line 18 --

13 A. MR. TENNEY: I see it:

14 Q. (as read)

15 "ATCO Electric Yukon plans to complete a
16 Renewable and Alternative Energy Study
17 that will identify the potential,
18 optimal size and configuration of
19 company built, owned and operated
20 renewable and alternative energy
21 generation," et cetera.

13:44

22 A. MR. TENNEY: Correct. It is our desire, as
23 we've requested in here, to -- for some money to
24 complete the renewable and alternative energy study.
25 And if we can find where it's acceptable from a

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1 financial and from a reliability perspective, we would
2 like to develop renewable generation to displace
3 diesel.

4 Q. Thank you.

5 Has ATCO Electric Yukon familiarized itself with
6 some of the wind diesel projects that are in operation
7 in Alaska?

8 A. MR. TENNEY: Well, I'm not sure how I
9 categorize familiarize myself.

10 Q. Let me be more explicit, then. Have you gone to visit
11 any of these projects in the Alaskan communities or
12 have you attended some of the conferences they have in
13 Alaska to hear about these projects and understand them
14 in a little bit more detail?

13:45

15 A. MR. TENNEY: Sure. Over the last number of
16 years, for sure, personnel from ATCO Electric Yukon
17 have been to Alaska to look at some of the projects. I
18 think the most recent was, was we attended a conference
19 in, I believe, it was Fairbanks in late September. So
20 we are aware.

13:45

21 Q. Thank you. Yes, good. And I take it from what is said
22 here and the fact that you're doing the study you would
23 like to maximize the use of renewable energy in your
24 communities, your diesel-served communities? Is that a
25 fair statement?

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1 A. MR. TENNEY: I think the way I would phrase it
2 is we believe that we have an obligation to provide
3 reliability cost-effective power for our customers.
4 We're hopefully that that can be renewable power; but,
5 again, with the caveat that it can't come at any cost,
6 and it can't end up with less reliable power. So we've
7 got some -- some constraints there.

8 Q. Yes, subject to those constraints, you'd like to use as
9 much renewable power as you effectively can?

10 A. MR. TENNEY: That's correct. 13:46

11 Q. I noticed a few pages on in on page 12-4 and then on
12 page 12-5 that this study also included pre-feasibility
13 phases, I guess, of projects and up to the feasibility
14 stages of projects. Is that all included within the
15 proposed \$500 study that these pre-feasibility and
16 feasibility studies would take place?

17 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes, that's correct. I think you
18 said \$500. It's \$500,000.

19 Q. 500,000, yes.

20 A. MR. TENNEY: But, yes. And I'm not sure the 13:47
21 distinguishing factor between pre-feasibility and
22 feasibility, but we want to stage it. We don't want to
23 -- if we can take a quick look at each community and
24 determine that it does look viable, then we want to
25 move forward with it. If it looks like there's just no

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1 way we can do it economically or ensure that we have
2 reliable power, then we want to move on and look at --
3 focus on those communities where it looks viable.

4 Q. Right. As the results of these study or studies become
5 available, do you expect to make them available to the
6 public?

7 A. MR. TENNEY: If you want I can find the exact
8 IR. It might take me some time, but I know we answer a
9 question on that, that we said we would make them
10 available publically at the time of our next filing.

13:48

11 Q. Right. Okay. What I'm thinking about now is that we
12 have an IPP policy coming out soon. You're going to be
13 looking at wind study. Presumably there may be parties
14 out there that wish to supply renewable energy to some
15 of your diesel-served communities. If they have to
16 start from scratch and compete with ATCO, who is having
17 some of the study cost covered by ratepayers, is that a
18 level playing field? Do you plan to sort of go out
19 for, you know, RFP competition to see who can provide
20 the most cost-effective power?

13:48

21 A. MR. TENNEY: So what I would say -- my
22 understanding, and as I think I mentioned yesterday,
23 the IPP policy isn't finalized, so there's a lot of
24 details that aren't understood; but as it relates to
25 the standard offer program in the IPP policy, I think

1 we're going to the utilities, however we get there, if
2 it's a Public Utilities Board process or otherwise,
3 we're going to end up with a set price. That whoever
4 comes forward and can offer a renewable project at that
5 price, we're obligated to purchase that power up to
6 those limits. So there will be a level playing field
7 there.

8 And the other part of your question, I would
9 suggest to you that we're probably behind all of the
10 IPP companies in terms of moving forward on renewables. 13:49
11 Maybe not all of the IPP companies. But I know, as
12 you're well aware, here in the Yukon there's a number
13 of proponents already out there in our communities that
14 are talking about projects that they're anxious for
15 this policy to get completed, or they're moving forward
16 on that portion of the IPP policy that talks about an
17 unsolicited proposal.

18 So there's a number of projects that are already
19 coming at us.

20 Q. Yes. I'm wondering if there might be concern amongst 13:50
21 this group of IPPs if the ratepayers are essentially
22 paying ATCO to do some of their upfront work, they've
23 taken risks on -- with their own money on some of the
24 upfront work, you know, some of the upfront work as
25 described here in terms of measuring wind resources and

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1 solar resources, I'm wondering how you justify asking
2 the ratepayers to pay those costs when there are others
3 who have risked their own money to get the same
4 information. Is that a fair situation?

5 A. MR. TENNEY: I mean, everybody's got a
6 definition of "fair," but what I would say to you is I
7 believe that we have an obligation to serve our
8 customers with reliable cost-effective power; and to
9 the extent -- and if we can in an environmentally
10 friendly fashion. And so if there's an option to do
11 that, I think we have to look at that; and if we're
12 not, we just sit here and do nothing, and I'm not sure
13 that's what customers want us to do either.

13:51

14 So it is a bit of a challenge. We are working
15 with IPP proponents already. We're participating in a
16 number of -- or we're at least participating in one
17 directly where we're looking at interconnecting them to
18 our system. So I don't think we're looking to exclude
19 anybody from participating.

20 Q. Thank you. One of the other things I noted here is
21 that you're looking at potential improvements to
22 existing plants, improving their efficiency; and I'm
23 just wondering, isn't that something you're obligated
24 to do as it is? Why would you -- why would you need to
25 include this in a particular study that you come here

13:51

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1 for?

2 A. MR. TENNEY: I would agree with you that I
3 think we're always supposed to be looking for ways to
4 reduce costs for our customers. As you're well aware,
5 we do have, in Watson Lake, we do have a waste-heat
6 scheme that's been in place for -- I can't remember
7 when, but I'm going to say around the mid-'80s,
8 somewhere along that line, timeline. We are looking at
9 other stuff. I think since we wrote this we're
10 probably going to be looking at separating the
11 renewables from the alternative part.

13:52

12 We are working with the Yukon Government about
13 ways that we can expand or initiate some district
14 heating schemes; at the same time looking for renewable
15 generation solutions.

16 Q. Right.

17 A. MR. TENNEY: It's just -- I guess my point
18 would be we can't seek out some of those district
19 heating schemes without spending some resources to see
20 if they're viable, and so that's part of what this is
21 about. That's over and above what costs we would have
22 normally had in here in our GRA revenue requirement.

13:53

23 Q. So you're saying that you wouldn't normally undertake
24 this kind of study without first coming to the Board?

25 A. MR. TENNEY: We haven't in a while taken a look

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1 at those, and so what we're flagging is we're looking
2 at ways to reduce dependancy on diesel.

3 Q. Thank you. In doing this study, have you -- have you
4 been working with the industrial research chair in
5 Northern Energy Innovation at Yukon College?

6 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes, ATCO Electric is one of the
7 members of the Northern consortium, so we are one of
8 the funding, together with the three Crown
9 corporations. ATCO Electric is the fourth industry
10 that funds this chair.

13:54

11 Q. Right. So this chair and his activities will form part
12 of this \$500,000 worth of studies, will it? Are some
13 of the studies going to be done through his shop, as it
14 were, I guess, is the question?

15 A. MR. TENNEY: That's not clear yet because
16 obviously our studies are focused on our service area,
17 and yet we're only one of four in the other -- and I
18 think Mr. Massie has been meeting with them. And if my
19 recollection is correct, I think there's probably going
20 to be an initial push looking at the communities in
21 Nunavut.

13:54

22 A. MR. MASSIE: Yeah, I sit on the board there, so
23 I'm ATCO's representative with the other Crown corps.
24 So the research chairs, first, it's a five-year
25 program, so joint funded by the Federal Government, so

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1 it can't be specific to the Yukon, given the other
2 jurisdictions. So the first-year projects he is
3 studying plants in Nunavut, as well as something in
4 NWT, and just recently he's looking at a community here
5 in the Yukon.

6 I would say that -- you know, that's outside of
7 our -- of what we're doing here. You know, that's in
8 addition it's another avenue for us to explore.

9 Q. Okay. Have you initiated any studies in this program
10 of \$500,000? I see from your schedules you are
11 forecast to spend 150,000 this calendar year and the
12 balance next calendar year. Given -- given time is
13 running out on this year, I wondered if you had
14 initiated any studies yet.

13:55

15 A. MR. TENNEY: We haven't really got going as
16 quickly as we wanted. We -- I think we will be in a
17 situation where we'll be releasing a tender document
18 that will look at the feasibility studies in Yukon as
19 well as the Northwest Territories and Northern Alberta.
20 I'm hopefully that that -- I'm going to call it
21 competitive process gets underway this week or early
22 next week.

13:56

23 Q. Thank you.

24 All right. I would like to speak about
25 Destruction Bay and their diesel replacements there for

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1 a few minutes. Yesterday and in IR responses we've
2 heard of some of the detail of how you go about
3 soliciting information from customers, the potential
4 customers, and how you develop load forecast.

5 Yet it appears when we -- when we get into IRs
6 about potential IPP supply such as in Destruction Bay,
7 Burwash Landing, and in Old Crow there seems to be a
8 lot less information available, and I'm wondering why
9 you don't appear to be spending as much time and effort
10 soliciting information from these potential suppliers
11 as you do from potential customers.

13:57

12 **A. MR. MASSIE:** I would say -- so specifically for
13 Destruction Bay, yes, we're well aware of the renewable
14 project that has been in the works in that area for a
15 number of years; however, like we've said in our
16 responses, is, you know, our diesel generators, they're
17 coming -- we're replacing them because they're at the
18 end of their life. It's a planned process. We need to
19 replace them to ensure that we're continuing to supply
20 reliable power in that community.

13:58

21 Now, that particular renewable project has been in
22 process for a number of years, and I still haven't
23 heard a firm in-service date for it.

24 So we do -- we do fully understand what is being
25 proposed there, but without a firm in-service date and

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1 power purchase agreement of how much power that will be
2 replied to that micro-grid, we do have to move ahead
3 with our projects to ensure that we're going to
4 continue to supply power to that community.

5 A. MR. TENNEY: If it's helpful -- and I'm not
6 sure how far I'll go here -- but we are working with
7 the community, with the Kwanlin Dün First Nation.
8 We're working with the Territorial Government. We're
9 working with the Federal Government on moving forward
10 on a system impact study that's both related to solar 13:59
11 that's happening in Burwash Landing as well as wind.

12 So if we've left you with the impression that
13 we're doing nothing on there, that's incorrect. We're
14 close to moving forward on that -- formally forward on
15 that grid impact study.

16 Q. Thank you. That's helpful.

17 One of the things that impacts renewable energy
18 projects is, of course, the size of the diesel
19 generators. In response to JM-AEY-27 that's the IR in
20 Exhibit B-5, and in particular, in Part (b) for Bob on 13:59
21 that IR -- I'll wait until you get there --

22 A. MR. MASSIE: I'm there.

23 Q. -- and then continue the question.

24 You mentioned that the lowest amount of diesel
25 generation to be kept running is dependent on a number

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1 of factors, and that typically manufacturers recommend
2 that units are operated in the range of 50 to 80
3 percent of rated capacity. I take it that means then
4 you try to dispatch your units within that range as
5 well for serving normal load.

6 If a project -- renewable energy project comes on
7 and your diesel generators can't go below 50 and you've
8 just installed larger generators, it means that there
9 is more base load diesel generation that can't be
10 displaced by that renewable energy projected. So
11 there's a smaller slice available for the renewable
12 energy project.

13 I just wondered how on a go-forward basis you
14 would deal with that when you're trying to maximize, to
15 the extent reasonable, the amount of renewable
16 energy -- cost-effective renewable energy in these
17 small systems?

18 **A. MR. TENNEY:** So this is, for sure, a challenge.
19 It's how long do you wait for a project that's talked
20 about when we've got our diesel units coming to the end
21 of their life. Can we wait?

22 And as Mr. Massie says, this project has been on
23 the books for a number of years. So we have moved
24 forward with it. We think the Yukon Government in
25 their IPP policy has recognized this, and that's why

14:00

14:01

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1 they've set some limits on how much is available under
2 standard offer program.

3 That doesn't mean that's the final cap.
4 Obviously, I think that policy states that it's going
5 to be reviewed every couple of years, but in this
6 specific -- if you're talking about Burwash Landing,
7 part of our grid impact study is to say is we know what
8 the size of the wind project is. So what kind of
9 energy storage do we now need to make that viable. And
10 we've also looked to say what should we do in terms of
11 looking at sizing our generation.

14:02

12 So we're looking at all of those. Yet we have
13 ordered that one new unit because we decided we
14 couldn't wait any longer. We had to move forward, but
15 in the future, we're, for sure, open to those concepts.

16 Q. So if you're looking at size of generation as part of
17 that project, would you be looking at things like
18 instead of having three generator plants, maybe having
19 four generator plants with a smaller generator so that
20 you can accommodate more renewable energy? Is that
21 something the study will look at?

14:02

22 A. MR. TENNEY: I think that's the way it's
23 written that we will look at that. So we're going to
24 be looking at a number of alternatives in there. I'm
25 not positive -- we're not actually leading the study.

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1 **So I'm not positive where all of this goes.**

2 Q. Fair enough. Thank you.

3 I would next like to talk about the Watson Lake
4 bi-fuel project, and I would like to start by referring
5 to interrogatory JM-AEY-24. That's in Exhibit B-5.

6 **A. MR. TENNEY: Okay. I have that.**

7 Q. Okay. And in response to Part (a), you've provided
8 historical table of prices of energy and oil and price
9 of energy in gas so that they can be easily compared.

10 And looking at that table, which is on page 2 of 3
11 of the response to that IR, I see that in the years
12 where there's figures for both from '97 through to
13 about 2005, the cost of energy in gas runs sort of
14 between 70 and 100 percent of the cost of energy in
15 oil, and thereafter there seems a transition where the
16 cost of energy in gas is continually decreasing
17 relative to the cost of energy in oil.

18 And the last entry in the table for 2015 is that
19 the cost of energy in gas is 31 percent of the cost of
20 energy in oil.

21 In response to Part (c), you do a calculation
22 with -- I think there are different oil and gas
23 supplies, but you come out with a ratio of 36.2
24 percent. That's in Part (c) for Charlie.

25 And in Part (d) for David just below that you

14:04

14:04

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1 mention that the -- that: (as read)

2 "An average delivered LNG price to
3 deliver diesel price ratio of
4 75.6 percent is required over the
5 lifetime of the project."

6 I'll have a bit of difficulty translating the percentage
7 of energy price to the percentage delivered price
8 compared to delivered price, and I was wondering if you
9 have at your fingertips or whether you could provide,
10 number one, the answer to Part (c), which is
11 36.2 percent -- would you be able to convert that to a
12 delivered LNG price and compare that to the delivered
13 diesel price ratio?

14:05

14 So can you convert that to comparable prices of
15 delivered energy to Watson Lake the way you have it
16 expressed in the part below?

17 A. MR. TENNEY: Just one sec. I'm looking for --
18 I think there might be where we provide that. Just
19 give me one second to look.

20 Q. Sure.

14:06

21 A. MR. TENNEY: I might be able to have that data
22 for you.

23 Mr. Maissan, if I could get you to go to
24 UCG-AEY-53(d), Attachment 1.

25 Q. What was the IR number again, please?

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1 A. MR. TENNEY: UCG-53.

2 Q. 53.

3 A. MR. TENNEY: And it's in Attachment 1.

4 Q. I have that, yes.

5 A. MR. TENNEY: And I think that sets out the
6 liquefaction costs and the transportation costs for the
7 LNG, so I think you could add those numbers -- I think
8 this is what you're asking for -- you could add those
9 numbers to the raw commodity cost that was in the IR
10 that you had me on.

14:08

11 Q. I'm afraid I'm not seeing what you're seeing.

12 A. MR. TENNEY: Okay. Maybe just --

13 Q. Is this the summary table page 1 of 1?

14 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes. Just let me -- I better go
15 to it. I had to blow it up so I could see it. So it
16 says "UCG-AEY-53(d), Attachment 1, model Fortis, page 1
17 of 3."

18 Q. Okay. Yes, I have that now. And I'm going to have to
19 blow it up too. Okay. I see that, yes.

20 A. MR. TENNEY: So I think it sets out the actual
21 LNG cost. Then it sets out the transportation costs,
22 all in dollars per diesel -- litre of diesel
23 equivalent, and then it gives a liquefaction cost.

14:09

24 Q. Okay. So you're saying that if I use the numbers in
25 this table --

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1 **A. MR. TENNEY:** If you add the liquefaction and
2 the transportation cost to your dollars per gigajoule,
3 you'll get the delivered LNG costs.

4 **Q.** Okay. And that will correspond to the numbers in the
5 response to JM-AEY-24? You believe so?

6 **A. MR. TENNEY:** They'll correspond to that?

7 **Q.** Yes. Will they?

8 **A. MR. TENNEY:** Well, this was -- the numbers that
9 I just had you on UCG-53 were based on a Sproule-priced
10 forecast. And so the numbers you're looking at were
11 historical, but I was trying to give you an estimate of
12 what the liquefaction and transportation costs would
13 be.

14:10

14 **Q.** The response to Part (c) in JM-AEY-24 was dealing with
15 prices on July the 18th, 2016, Henry Hub and Cushing --

16 **A. MR. TENNEY:** You know what, I think I'm going
17 to cut to the chase and make this a lot simpler. I'm
18 going to take an undertaking, and I'm going to get you
19 based on the actual prices that that -- that 36
20 percent, what we would add to the gas price for
21 liquefaction and deliveries and what we would add to
22 the diesel prices for deliveries so that we can show
23 you what those numbers are.

14:10

24 **Q.** Perfect. Thank you.

25 **A. MR. TENNEY:** Sorry for --

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1 Q. Yes. Okay.

2 UNDERTAKING - TO PROVIDE WHAT
3 ATCO ELECTRIC YUKON WOULD ADD TO THE
4 GAS PRICE FOR LIQUEFACTION AND
5 DELIVERIES AND WHAT THEY WOULD ADD TO
6 THE DIESEL PRICES FOR DELIVERIES TO
7 SHOW WHAT THOSE NUMBERS ARE

8 Q. MR. MAISSAN: And if I could ask for one more
9 thing.

10 In Part (d) for David, the 75.6 percent over the
11 lifetime of the project that you need to break even,
12 can you provide an LNG -- sorry, a gas price at source
13 that corresponds to that? Because that includes -- the
14 75.6 percent, it will include liquefaction and will
15 include transportation.

14:11

16 A. MR. TENNEY: I think what that's saying is
17 that's the amount of -- that spread will give you a
18 savings. That savings applied to the capital cost and
19 the O&M cost would allow you to break even, so it's not
20 based on any particular gas forecast.

14:11

21 Q. Okay. We'll leave it there. I'd have to spend some
22 more time and not productively here. Thank you. All
23 right. I'd like to move to --

24 MS. SABO: Sorry, Mr. Maissan. I think they
25 just want to confirm they don't have a second

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1 undertaking there.

2 MR. MAISSAN: Okay, so --

3 MS. SABO: So they only have the one that
4 Mr. Tenney --

5 MR. MAISSAN: -- the one undertaking, yes.

6 MS. SABO: -- agree to --

7 MR. MAISSAN: I understood that --

8 MS. SABO: -- originally?

9 MR. MAISSAN: -- the second wasn't possible,
10 so --

14:12

11 MS. SABO: Okay, thank you.

12 MR. MAISSAN: -- correct. The reference to UCG
13 was helpful because I can probably go and crank some
14 numbers myself offline.

15 Q. I would like to go now to your application. It's
16 Appendix 3, the Watson Lake bi-fuel project, and it
17 starts on page 241 of 292 in the application.

18 A. **MR. TENNEY:** **So Appendix 3. Which page now,**
19 **Mr. Maissan, sorry?**

20 Q. I'm on page 8.

14:13

21 A. **MR. TENNEY:** **Page 8, sorry.**

22 Q. I'm on page 8 of the bi-fuel project, and so that would
23 be somewhere around pdf 249 of 292 or 248 of 292.

24 A. **MR. TENNEY:** **Okay. I think I'm there now.**

25 Q. Thank you. The Table 3 I'm looking at has alternative

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1 scenarios. Scenario 3 at the top with gas supplied
2 from Fortis in BC, it's a simple payback of 15 years
3 and a net PV of minus \$900,000. Do you see that?

4 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes.

5 Q. I was wondering about that number because further down
6 -- I'm looking at Scenario 6 where both commodities
7 double in price, both numbers are positive. And when I
8 looked back to Table 2 on the previous page using the
9 Sproule price forecast and the second scenario there
10 both commodities escalating at 5 percent, both the
11 Fortis numbers are positive, and I'm wondering whether
12 that negative \$900,000 is in fact positive. Could
13 there be an error in that table? It just looks out of
14 place with the other numbers. Could I just ask you to
15 check that and get back?

14:14

16 A. MR. TENNEY: Well, what I'm going to do is I'm
17 going to first take us to I think YUB-YECL-13 where we
18 had updated numbers, because we had a change in the
19 capital-cost forecast. So if I can get myself to
20 YUB-YECL-13.

14:15

21 Q. This is the original?

22 A. MR. TENNEY: You're looking at the original,
23 and then we updated the numbers. And in an IR
24 response, we provided new tables that should show those
25 same numbers with the updated capital forecast. So I

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1 just want to confirm that you still have the same issue
2 when we get to that IR.

3 Q. Oh, yes, I have that. That's on page 3 of 6 of
4 YUB-YECL-13.

5 A. MR. TENNEY: Right. So I guess you still have
6 that same anomaly there. One of the reasons that that
7 might be is when we escalate both commodities at a
8 certain price, obviously the -- when we escalate LNG,
9 the actual commodity as a percentage -- or the
10 percentage of it that makes up the total delivered
11 price is pretty small because you've got the
12 liquefaction and the transportation that are a pretty
13 big chunk. So all you're escalating is the raw
14 commodity. However, when you're escalating diesel,
15 you're escalating -- the majority of the cost is raw
16 commodity. So that's why the numbers --

14:15

17 Q. That's why --

18 A. MR. TENNEY: -- can look a little bit
19 different.

20 Q. Right. Okay. Thank you.

14:16

21 It's -- the one the last question that I wanted to
22 ask: When we look at these 20-year NPV numbers, some
23 of them look fairly small. And it seems to me that the
24 margin of comfort there is pretty small. It seems to
25 me there's a pretty high forecast risk given that it's

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1 a 20-year project.

2 And I wonder if you could explain how you are
3 comfortable with these relatively small margins.

4 A. MR. TENNEY: I mean, I guess "small" is your
5 term. They are -- when we ran -- you've seen -- you've
6 looked at all the scenarios.

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. MR. TENNEY: So, obviously, that's the heart of
9 the matter here is what is the price of diesel versus
10 the price of natural gas to make this go, and we can't
11 sit here and say we know for sure what that's going to
12 be.

13 But when we've ran a bunch of different scenarios,
14 we've almost always end up with a positive net present
15 value, which tells us that we think there are going to
16 be savings there. We compare that with we know -- I
17 can't remember the exact year. I want to tell you it
18 was 2014 -- there was the proceeding for the YEC's
19 Whitehorse generating station, which also looking at
20 the spread between LNG and diesel and came down
21 again -- it looked like LNG was going to be cheaper
22 over the long haul.

23 So when we add those two things up, we think this
24 is a project that we should move forward for our
25 customers.

14:17

14:17

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1 Q. Yes. Well, part of what makes me nervous is that
2 you've probably seen the information from BC Hydro
3 integrated resource study, and they looked at
4 historical forecasts and found that typically they
5 tended to forecast status quo because nobody knows what
6 isn't going to happen, which showed there really was a
7 fairly high risk in forecasting. And that's why I just
8 wanted to hear whether you were comfortable with the
9 forecasts here.

10 And what I'm hearing is yes, you are.

14:18

11 A. MR. TENNEY: The majority of the scenarios show
12 a net present value that's positive. So we think we
13 should move forward, and I haven't seen those notes
14 that you're referring to, but it's interesting that I
15 know that BC Hydro in Anahim Lake, one of their
16 communities that's a diesel community, they're just
17 very close -- they're in the commissioning stages of a
18 bi-fuel project in that community as well. So they
19 must think there must be some upside to LNG versus
20 diesel.

14:19

21 Q. Right. Thank you.

22 The last question I have is in regards to YUB
23 interrogatory, YUB-YECL-76, again Exhibit B-9. And
24 this is the smart grid study that you plan to be doing
25 jointly with Yukon Energy.

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1 And I was wondering whether this study has started
2 yet. Is that project underway yet?

3 **A. MR. MASSIE:** No. We're forecasting to complete
4 it next year. We've had preliminary discussions with
5 Yukon Energy about, you know, identifying what we're
6 going to look at. We list off a number of the items
7 that we've already talked about to be considered, but
8 it still needs to be narrowed down and finalized for
9 next year.

10 **Q.** Thank you.

14:20

11 When the report is ultimately complete will it be
12 filed with this Board and made public?

13 **A. MR. TENNEY:** Again, it's a joint study. So we
14 can't say for sure, but it would be our position that
15 we would like it to be.

16 **Q.** Thank you.

17 **MR. MAISSAN:** That concludes my questioning,
18 Mr. Chair. Thank you.

19 **THE CHAIR:** Thank you.

20 So good afternoon, and whenever you're ready, just
21 identify yourself for the record, and then you can
22 begin.

14:21

23 **MS. MIDDLEL:** Thank you.

24 **MS. MIDDLEL CROSS-EXAMINES THE PANEL:**

25 **Q.** My name is Anne Middler, and I'm representing the Yukon

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1 Conservation Society.

2 In YCS-YECL-1(a) the Yukon Conservation Society
3 asked for specific examples and broad company
4 objectives that support ATCO's claim from its GRA
5 submission that it's committed to working with
6 governments, First Nations, communities, and customers
7 to reduce the environmental impact of power generation
8 in the Yukon.

9 In its response AEY was short on details. So
10 we're seeking a bit more information. ATCO Electric
11 Yukon spoke to its participation in the collaborative
12 development of an Albertan -- an Alberta regulation on
13 gas emissions, NWT First Nation partnership and an
14 Alberta hydro project that's 25 percent owned by a
15 First Nation.

14:22

16 The Yukon examples micro-gen, customer
17 interactions, and participating in the IPP policy
18 production or development.

19 In YCS-YECL-1(a) ATCO states that it has:
20 (as read)

14:23

21 "...engaged with Indigenous Communities
22 as evidenced by our more 40 joint
23 venture partnerships."

24 Are any of those joint venture partnerships with
25 Indigenous Communities in the Yukon?

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1 A. MR. TENNEY: You're really going to test my
2 understanding of the ATCO group, but I do believe it
3 covers Yukon communities.

4 Q. Okay. That was also a little short on details, but
5 I'll move on to my next question, which is asking to
6 please describe ATCO Electric Yukon's role, if any, in
7 supporting or facilitating Kluane First Nation
8 aspirations to displace fossil fuel electricity
9 generation with renewable energy as evidenced in its
10 investment in planning and development of solar and
11 wind energy projects.

14:24

12 A. MR. TENNEY: So, again, I'm not sure how far I
13 can go with this; but, as I mentioned to Mr. Maissan,
14 we are very near to entering into an agreement with the
15 Kluane First Nation, the Territorial Government, and
16 the Federal Government to look at a system impact study
17 that's going to look at not only the proposed wind
18 project that Kluane has; but, as well, looking at the
19 solar -- the existing solar installations that are in
20 Burwash Landing as well as those that are potentially
21 planned by the community.

14:24

22 So we're in those discussions. I think we're
23 close to signing an agreement. It hasn't been executed
24 yet, but I suspect that will happen -- if I'm correct I
25 think I had an email today that looks like it's being

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1 sent around for signatures.

2 Q. So you're close to a power purchase agreement or a
3 system impact study agreement?

4 A. MR. TENNEY: We're close to a -- it's called a
5 "Grid Impact Assessment Study." It's a little
6 difficult for us to get out in front of an off-take
7 arrangement with Kluane when we know we're
8 really trying -- we're ahead of the IPP policy, and so
9 we're not exactly sure where the government's headed on
10 this; and so as you can appreciate, we've got that
11 mandate that we have to procedure safe, reliable, and
12 cost-effective power for our customers. So we're
13 waiting to see where that -- where that policy lands.

14:25

14 Q. Has ATCO Electric Yukon considered partnering with
15 First Nations instead of entering into power purchase
16 agreements but actually entering into a joint venture
17 with a First Nation government on a renewable energy
18 project?

19 A. MR. TENNEY: That's going to be a real struggle
20 for a regulated company to enter into a partnership
21 with a First Nation because we'd have to partner with
22 them for our entire company. We can't partner with
23 them for one asset inside our company. So it's a
24 struggle for ATCO Electric Yukon to enter into a
25 partnership. There's other ATCO entities that may be

14:26

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1 interested in working with them in a partnership, but
2 it's doubtful that the regulated utility will.

3 Q. Please describe ATCO Electric Yukon's role, if any, in
4 supporting or facilitating Vuntut Gwitchin
5 First Nation's aspirations to displace fossil fuel
6 electricity generation with renewable energy as
7 evidenced in its YESAB proposal for a 330-kilowatt
8 solar installation with storage.

9 A. MR. TENNEY: So you're looking for us to detail
10 our support for that project?

14:27

11 Q. Or your role in supporting it or facilitating it.

12 A. MR. TENNEY: So as you can probably appreciate,
13 things are pretty fluid and they change over time.
14 We've been involved in discussing that project with the
15 Vuntut Gwitchin Government for a number of years.
16 They've had at various times in that period, they've
17 had a partner. It looks like they no longer have the
18 pattern. We've been talking to them about the project,
19 the things that we could or couldn't do, and so I'm not
20 sure exactly where it finally gets to.

14:28

21 I don't know, Mr. Massie, if you want to add
22 anything more.

23 A. MR. MASSIE: Yes, as Mr. Tenney notes, so the
24 project, we've known about it for some time. As he
25 mentioned, there was -- the Vuntut Gwitchin Government

1 had a partner in the project that was not us. They
2 were looking at being a fully independent power
3 producer project ahead of the policy.

4 That has recently changed. They're now discussing
5 the project with us. We've discussed it just in
6 coordinating its entry into our micro-grid there and
7 how it's going to coordinate with our power plant. Now
8 things are a little bit up in the air as to, you know,
9 what they're seeking as a partnership from ATCO. And
10 as Mr. Tenney has mentioned, there are some
11 difficulties that we have as a regulated utility and
12 becoming a partner in a project that will eventually
13 want to be IPP. So it's all -- all in motion, all
14 being dealt with before the IPP policy is finalized.

15 So I don't know if that's cleared anything up for
16 you, but we've definitely had a number of discussions
17 with them, but it's definitely not finalized.

18 Q. It would probably be worth thinking about how these
19 partnership opportunities could happen that are -- you
20 know, the IPP policy says that you can't -- a utility
21 can't be an IPP, so is there other ways to have
22 partnerships using the expertise of an existing utility
23 with a First Nation, just sort of rapping about is
24 this.

25 So when you're thinking about your new diesel

14:29

14:30

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1 replacement in Old Crow, so further to what John was
2 talking about in sizing and scaling them, are you
3 considering, you know, the fact that solar is viable in
4 Old Crow and plentiful and could provide quite a
5 significant displacement for diesel fuel? Are you
6 considering that in your Old Crow replacement project?

7 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Well, just the challenge with the
8 recent replacements that we've had at Old Crow is that
9 they were planned and the majority of them executed
10 before the solar project was really brought to light.

14:31

11 So, you know, that addition of the second power
12 plant in Old Crow and the engines to go in there was
13 quite -- quite a ways into the process and down the
14 project path before, again, the solar project came to
15 light, that we -- that could be a possibility at some
16 point in the future.

17 **Q.** Is it possible to outline what efforts ATCO has made to
18 reduce or displace diesel in Old Crow, especially
19 considering the costs associated with flying the fuel
20 to this remote community?

14:32

21 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Well, regarding the new power
22 plant, of course, those -- the newer engines in there
23 aren't necessarily more fuel efficient, and that's
24 really to do with the improved emissions of the newer
25 units. So what happens with the new generation of

1 units out there is that quite a bit of the equipment on
2 the unit is used to improve emissions compared to the
3 units that are 15 to 20 years old. So that is
4 basically a parasitic load on that unit. That's why
5 they're not more fuel efficient than the older units.

6 We have had discussions with Yukon Government
7 about -- Yukon Government, as well as in the past with
8 the Vuntut Gwitchin Government, about a district
9 heating system off the power plant, and that really
10 would be utilizing pulling more energy out of every
11 litre of diesel. Unfortunately you're still using
12 diesel to make power, but at least we'd be pulling as
13 much energy out of that litre of diesel as possible
14 once it's up there.

15 Recently with the "in charge" program, we led the
16 efforts in coordinating with the government,
17 Vuntut Gwitchin Government, to get quite a bit of LED
18 products up to Old Crow, being our service area, to try
19 and -- to help on the Demand Site Management end of
20 things with them.

21 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes, so that's, I think as
22 Mr. Massie has said, the things we're doing on the
23 existing. You obviously are well aware in our
24 application. We're looking to do renewable studies,
25 including in Old Crow. We are working with the

14:33

14:34

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1 government, Yukon Energy, and Yukon Development
2 Corporation on the IPP policy, and we are trying to
3 explain to the government some of their competing
4 objectives that they have, if they want us to buy power
5 from an IPP, from solar or wind; and with today's low
6 fuel prices, if that's a challenge, we're making them
7 aware that they may have to come up with some other
8 policy changes to make that work.

9 Q. What other kinds of policy changes would you recommend
10 to make that work?

14:34

11 A. MR. TENNEY: Obviously one is a price on
12 carbon. And the other that I know that they're
13 thinking about, which is why we've talked about a
14 deferral account here, is they may just set "here's the
15 price that you shall pay for renewable generation"
16 regardless of whether it puts upward pressure on rates.

17 Q. So you are suggesting that a carbon tax is a good way
18 to help promote the integration of renewables in diesel
19 communities?

20 A. MR. TENNEY: I think our company has been on
21 the record before that we're not opposed to a price on
22 carbon.

14:35

23 Q. Great. You've had the waste heat district heating
24 happening in Watson Lake for, did you say, 15 years or
25 something like that?

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1 A. MR. TENNEY: I'm not positive of the exact
2 date. I said mid-'80s, and Mr. Massie has correct me
3 to say mid-'90s. So I would go with his recollection
4 rather than mine.

5 Q. 20 years or so. So -- and just now you're looking at
6 that similar kind of efficiency alternative energy in
7 some of your proposed studies?

8 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes. As I said to Mr. Maissan,
9 we're likely separating that from the renewable
10 portion, but we are still looking at it. And as
11 Mr. Massie mentioned, we've been talking to the
12 Vuntut Gwitchin Government and the Yukon Territorial
13 Government about it in Old Crow. We're, for sure,
14 talking to the Territorial Government about the
15 opportunities in Beaver Creek. So we're looking at
16 that.

14:36

17 A. MR. MASSIE: So -- and I would say for those --
18 that heat recovery system in Watson Lake, they're a
19 very capital intensive program to have it installed.
20 So it does have a very long payback period.

14:36

21 The issues -- and we have chatted about it in
22 Old Crow for some time now. The issue is if we look at
23 the system that's in place in Watson Lake, it's dug
24 down into the ground -- the heating pipes go -- they're
25 in the ground, and they head off to the heating system

1 and the facilities that they heat.

2 In Old Crow the issue is permafrost. So, really,
3 digging them into the ground really isn't the answer
4 there. So it would be an aboveground installation of
5 some sort. With permafrost there's constant movement
6 of that top surface. So it's been a really engineering
7 struggle, to say the least, to try and look at there.

8 When we look at our power plant in Destruction
9 Bay, it's quite a ways on the edge of town. So if
10 you're going to be putting in one of these systems,
11 again they're capital intensive to install. And then
12 there's the distance that that power plant is from
13 any -- any facilities that it would heat.

14:37

14 And in Destruction Bay where we're quite a ways
15 away from other infrastructure in the community. So
16 that's made it challenging there, too.

17 A. MR. GRATTAN: And just to add to Mr. Tenney and
18 Mr. Massie's comments, back when I was in Mr. Massie's
19 role in the mid-2000s, we took a pretty good run with
20 the BGFN looking at waste heat in Old Crow.

14:38

21 And, as Mr. Massie just pointed out, we couldn't
22 get it -- the numbers to work without a significant
23 contribution from government, and we were unsuccessful
24 at that point in time. So it's been percolating for
25 many years subsequent to the mid-1990s when we were

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1 successful in Watson Lake. It just hasn't happened yet
2 largely because of the numbers not quite working and
3 the right government contribution not being available.

4 Q. And the permafrost issues and, you know, probably
5 there's money better spent in reducing energy demand
6 for heating in buildings in the Arctic.

7 A. MR. MASSIE: The -- also thing I would point
8 out for Watson Lake, really, is the vast majority of
9 that system is owned by the town of Watson Lake. So
10 that capital contribution for them to take it from our
11 power plant and out into the community to heat the
12 school and the recplex was paid for through the Town of
13 Watson Lake, and where that capital investment came
14 from, I'm not clear, for sure.

14:39

15 Q. Yeah. It seems that the district heating option for
16 Whistle Bend might have fallen apart because nobody
17 wanted to own that infrastructure. So that's an issue
18 for district heat, who's responsible for that
19 significant capital cost and maintenance.

20 Okay. Then to Watson Lake, at the last GRA YECL
21 2013-2015, you stated that the main driver for the
22 bi-fuel facility was to improve air quality in the
23 community of Watson Lake, but this time there's no
24 mention of that.

14:40

25 In John Maissan, JM-AEY-18(c), you state that you

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1 understand that: (as read)

2 "Yes. I have concluded that greenhouse
3 gas impacts of the combustion of fuel in
4 an LNG and diesel generation plant are
5 essentially the same."

6 It's -- now it's -- you talk about helping the Federal
7 Government meet its objective to reduce reliance of
8 diesel in off-grid communities. In YCS-YECL-1(c) you
9 state that:

10 "The substitution of LNG for diesel fuel
11 in Watson Lake provides reliable power
12 at a lower price with comparable
13 environmental impact."

14:41

14 So I'm just asking to confirm, then, that if the
15 environmental impacts are comparable there's no
16 environmental benefit to the LNG bi-fuel project; is
17 that correct?

18 MS. SABO: Before you answer that,
19 Mr. Tenney, I'd just -- Ms. Middler, the court reporter
20 is having a hard time keeping up with you when you're
21 doing your questions. So if you could just pause once
22 in a while and give her a chance to catch up. Thank
23 you.

14:41

24 MS. MIDDLEL: My apologies.

25 Q. Did you want me to ask that question more slowly?

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1 A. MR. TENNEY: Maybe I should ask for you to say
2 it again because there was a lot there, but I'll go for
3 it.

4 I think what we've proposed, the Watson Lake
5 bi-fuel project, is -- as we've said a number of times
6 here today, we have an obligation to serve reliable
7 power at a cost-effective price. We see that we could
8 move this project forward, and we think under all
9 plausible scenarios of gas prices it looks like it's a
10 net present value positive for our customers. And
11 that's why we're proposing to move forward on the
12 project.

13 Q. In your general rate application, page 12-1, it states:

14 "In July 2015, Canadian Council of the
15 Federation announced work on a
16 Canadian Energy Strategy which
17 reinforced Canada's commitment to secure
18 a supply of energy for all Canadians,
19 support energy innovation and address
20 climate change."

21 There was a task force: (as read)

22 "...to reduce the use of diesel fuel to
23 generate electricity in isolated
24 communities. This was reinforced in
25 March of 2016 in Vancouver at the

14:42

14:42

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1 First Ministers' meeting where
2 Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the
3 provincial and territorial premiers
4 announced they would take action to
5 eliminate the dependence on diesel in
6 Indigenous, remote and northern
7 communities with renewable, clean
8 energy."

9 Can you confirm that the Federal Government's goal is to
10 reduce or eliminate the dependence on diesel in these
11 communities and replace it with renewable energy?

14:43

12 A. MR. TENNEY: And I think we've answered an IR,
13 and I could find it, but I don't think it's probably
14 going to be much help.

15 We do believe -- it's our understanding that their
16 goal was to reduce diesel dependency with utilizing
17 renewable energy; but, again, I'll come back to our
18 reasoning for moving forward on the Watson Lake bi-fuel
19 project was it continues to provide us a reliable
20 supply, our customers a reliable supply, and we think
21 it will do it cheaper than the existing diesel
22 facilities.

14:44

23 Q. Okay. Can you confirm, though, that substituting one
24 climate destabilizing and polluting fossil fuel with
25 another does not achieve that goal of replacing diesel

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1 with renewable energy?

2 A. MR. TENNEY: You used a lot of adjectives there
3 that I might not use.

4 I would agree that we are -- our project, our
5 Watson Lake bi-fuel project would have thermal --
6 continue to have thermal energy.

7 Q. In Appendix 3, business cases, page 7, under the title,
8 "Business Drivers and Benefits Meeting Federal and
9 Territorial Goals, ATCO Electric Yukon" states:
10 (as read)

14:45

11 "The Federal and Yukon Governments have
12 indicated a strong desire to reduce or
13 eliminate dependence on diesel fuel in
14 northern and remote communities. The
15 implementation of the Watson Lake
16 bi-fuel meets this goal while allowing
17 for future renewable power generation."

18 Have you received any indication from either the Federal
19 or Territorial Government that a fossil fuel
20 substitution is meeting its goals?

14:45

21 MS. SABO: Sorry, Ms. Middler, could you give
22 us the reference again for that?

23 MS. MIDDLEL: Appendix 3, business cases,
24 page 7.

25 MS. SABO: Thank you.

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1 A. MR. TENNEY: So you're asking if we've received
2 any federal or territorial assurances that this project
3 does meet their goals, and no, we haven't, nor have we
4 asked.

5 Q. MS. MIDDLEL: And how will the ratepayer
6 investment in this fossil fuel substitution allow for
7 future renewable power generation and not be a barrier
8 to it?

9 A. MR. TENNEY: I'm not sure that I would think
10 that it is a barrier to it. We're either going to burn
11 diesel or we're going to burn LNG, and so we can still
12 look at adding renewables. We can still look at adding
13 storage. Nothing prevents that from happening. We
14 still -- on our belief when we look at some of the
15 projects that have been completed in the north, and one
16 that comes to mind is Colville Lake in the
17 Northwest Territories, there was significant federal
18 and territorial money, as well as investment from the
19 utility there, to build a project that had renewables
20 and battery storage, but nevertheless, there still
21 needs to be diesel in that community. We would see
22 Watson Lake as no different. In the near to medium
23 term, we still think we're not going to be able to get
24 away from having thermal generation for base load
25 requirements.

14:46

14:47

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1 Q. Yeah, in YCS-YECL-2(a), you state that: (as read)
2 "LNG allows for the displacement of base
3 load diesel with a more economic fuel
4 type,"

5 And then you go on to say that it's your belief there
6 will still be a need for base load generation and that
7 diesel and LNG can provide that base load energy.

8 Can you think of a Yukon example in which renewable
9 energy provides base load generation?

10 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes. I believe that if you have
11 hydro generation with storage, you can have a renewable
12 project that is base load generation.

13 Q. Do you think that is a possibility in Watson Lake, for
14 renewable energy to provide some, if not all, base load
15 generation?

16 A. MR. TENNEY: It for sure is a possibility, but
17 it comes with other challenges. You for sure need
18 storage, a run-of-river project isn't going to do it.
19 Because in the Yukon when we need power in the cold
20 winter months, that's typically when the flows from the
21 river are at their lowest, so you're going to need
22 storage. And as you're well aware so far, in the
23 territory recently, we haven't seen a lot of support
24 for development with hydro with storage. So it's
25 possible but certainly challenging.

14:48

14:48

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1 Q. Mm-hm. And at certain times of the year more than
2 others as a possibility?

3 A. MR. TENNEY: Well, base load is that it's there
4 any time you need it, and so I think that the
5 challenges that I was referring to is building the
6 storage to get the approvals, the social license to do
7 that, discussion with First Nations. That's
8 challenging every month of the year.

9 Q. Are you aware of any work that's been done to identify
10 hydro sites near Watson Lake that could meet some or
11 all of Watson Lake's demand at a comparable cost to
12 diesel?

13 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes. We were involved with the
14 Liard First Nation and the Town of Watson Lake, and we
15 had a feasibility study that was completed I think it
16 was 2014.

17 Q. Does -- has any further mapping or engineering or flow
18 or consultation work or seeking funding sources or
19 partnership opportunities happened at any of those
20 sites since that time?

21 A. MR. TENNEY: We have for sure met with the
22 Kaska, but not -- not specifically about one site.

23 Q. Does this LNG bi-fuel project proposal investment
24 signal that ATCO is not interested in pursuing a hydro
25 or non-fossil-fuel-based renewable energy generation

14:49

14:50

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1 source for Watson Lake?

2 A. I sure hope not because it for sure is not only
3 ATCO Electric Yukon but the ATCO Group of Companies, is
4 very much wanting to move forward on renewable
5 generation. That's part of our strategic goal.

6 Q. So if a hydro or wind or solar or geothermal project
7 were built to provide energy for the community of
8 Watson Lake by whomever, what would the role be of the
9 proposed diesel and LNG plant?

10 A. MR. TENNEY: So you'd have to give me a little
11 bit more on your scenario because I think in our IR
12 responses we've said we think that we're going to still
13 continue to need thermal for base load even if we have
14 a fairly significant penetration level, so a pretty
15 high proportion of renewables. We think in that
16 scenario you'd probably need to add some energy
17 storage, likely batteries and likely the control
18 systems that allow your battery to look one minute --
19 or one second look like load and the next second look
20 like generation. But in the medium term, we don't see
21 a facility coming along that's going to displace
22 thermal as a base load.

23 Q. I wonder if I'm confusing -- or we're just using
24 different terminology. When you say "base load," am I
25 thinking you're talking about capacity, or -- do you

14:51

14:52

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1 know what I mean? Is that what you're meaning when you
2 say "base load," you're meaning capacity?

3 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes, I think that's mostly what I
4 mean, that when you flip the light switch, that there's
5 power there to back that up. And so with intermittent
6 sources like wind or solar, you can't guarantee that
7 when you flip the switch it's there, but when you have
8 something like a thermal facility like diesel or LNG,
9 you probably have a capacity factor closer to the 92
10 percent level, whereas you're probably -- solar, in the 14:53
11 Yukon, you're probably closer to the 10 or 11 percent.
12 So that's what I mean when I talk "base load." So it
13 sounds like we're on the same page there.

14 Q. I'm not sure, though, because I do feel that a
15 combination -- I appreciate that thermal will be
16 required to -- for capacity requirements on any grid,
17 but I do believe there's a lot of opportunity for other
18 renewable sources to be meeting those energy
19 requirements, and I think that there's sort of a
20 universal desire, even coming out of ATCO, to be 14:54
21 meeting some of those confirms for renewable energy
22 sources.

23 And so yesterday, Mr. Tenney, you stated in the
24 transcript, page 67, lines 15 to 17 quote: (as read)
25 "Because obviously that is the heart of

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1 the matter on these economics, the price
2 difference between LNG and diesel."

3 And you talked to John about your confidence in those
4 price forecasts. But I'm wondering what role do you
5 believe that utilization of this facility has on
6 economics and the business case.

7 **A. MR. TENNEY:** I think that's a fair point, that
8 we for sure -- those numbers are -- that financial
9 model hasn't assumed that we have renewables coming in
10 and at what penetration level. So it's looking at the
11 status quo.

14:55

12 **Q.** Have you done any work looking at Yukon Energy's LNG
13 facility since it went into service a year and a half
14 ago about the proposed economic benefit and the actual
15 economic benefit?

16 **A. MR. TENNEY:** No, I have not.

17 **Q.** I'll move on now to the renewable and alternative
18 energy study and some of the questions were answered in
19 part from John Maissan's questions, and it was
20 YCS-YECL-3(c), in which you talked about study results
21 being made public.

14:56

22 And I am seeking clarity about what is the
23 difference between the study results and the study
24 itself. You said that: (as read)

25 "The results of the study will be made

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1 public during the next YUB application."

2 I'd like you to confirm whether or not the study itself
3 will be made public and when.

4 A. MR. TENNEY: So I'm just in my mind trying to
5 think if there's going to be anything in there that
6 would be confidential information. I don't think there
7 would be. I think it would be all the information that
8 we would normally file in front of this Board.

9 So I think my answer right now would be that I --
10 rather than the results, we would provide the study,
11 and I think our answer still stands that at our next
12 Yukon Utilities Board application is when we would
13 bring those forward, or failing -- I should say, to the
14 extent they're successful, if we've got something
15 further to work on, they'll be before this Board sooner
16 rather than later because we would want to continue on
17 with developing that project, and that would probably
18 be a part of an application that we would undertake to
19 get that project into revenue requirement and rate
20 base.

14:56

21 Q. Right. You say in your application 12 -- page 23 --
22 or, I guess, Section 12, page 2, starting on line 24
23 that:

24 "Once the Renewable and Alternative
25 Energy study is complete, ATCO Electric

14:57

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1 Yukon proposes any projects identified
2 that are technically and economically
3 feasible will be brought forward in
4 business cases in a stand-alone
5 proceeding for approval by the YUB."

6 So what does that look like? How does that work?

7 A. MR. TENNEY: So obviously this application was
8 made in May. We were before the Board for 2016-2017.
9 I thought we would be farther along on the studies than
10 we are. And so I was very hopefully to the extent that 14:58
11 we could find a project that was feasible that because
12 '16 and '17 have already been tested by the Board, all
13 aspects of it from sales to revenue requirement, if we
14 found a project that was viable before the end of
15 calendar year 2017, we could bring it back before the
16 Board, since everything else was tested, and you could
17 have your own stand-alone module for that so that we
18 could then just have a rider for any impacts that that
19 project would have on revenue requirement.

20 If the project -- if we can't get that done in 14:59
21 2017, I suspect that stand-alone proceeding will
22 probably not be available to us. We'd have to --
23 because if we come back in '18 or '19, I suspect we'd
24 have to have everything tested at one time.

25 That's what that line -- or that's what that

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1 concept was about. We didn't want to wait, but we
2 don't have anything to bring forward at this time.

3 Q. So if it's being paid for -- it's being added to the
4 rate base and being paid for by ratepayers, the study
5 itself, does it need to wait until a GRA -- can you
6 just make it public so that everyone can enjoy the
7 results of the study or the study itself?

8 A. MR. TENNEY: So -- so I don't think I'm that
9 opposed to that. I guess maybe it would be posted to
10 our website. So that's a possibility.

15:00

11 Q. I'm just wondering if any of that information would be
12 considered proprietary or -- considering it was covered
13 by ratepayers.

14 A. MR. TENNEY: You raise questions that I'm not
15 sure that I have the answer to. So we're -- as I
16 mentioned to Mr. Maissan, that I think, hopefully, this
17 week or next week we'll be out for tender for folks to
18 help us complete these studies.

19 I don't know what they might provide in those
20 studies that they would deem to be confidential. So
21 that is a bit of -- I guess you're right about that
22 that does present a bit of a challenge for us.

15:00

23 And yet you've got to balance that off with that
24 it is our customers that is paying for these studies.
25 So I would like to think that we have to tell our

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1 people helping us do the studies that we're going to
2 file that.

3 Q. And I was a bit confused about the study and how -- and
4 whether it was a separate or a different thing from
5 what the work of the new industrial research chair and
6 how those two bodies of work would be informing each
7 other or -- but I think Jay explained that to John that
8 the NCIRC (phonetic) research chair is looking --
9 Pan-Northern and these particular studies are looking
10 more immediately at your off-grid communities; is that
11 correct? 15:01

12 A. MR. TENNEY: Yes. And I would point out that
13 right now -- there are no costs included in our
14 2016-2017 revenue requirement related to the research
15 chair.

16 Q. So you'll seek to add that to the rate base at a later
17 date, at your next GRA? Is that what you're saying?

18 A. MR. TENNEY: I mean, I don't know. Right now
19 that's being funded by ATCO Electric. Clearly
20 ATCO Electric is our parent company. It has -- in
21 Northern Alberta there's isolated or generation --
22 diesel generation communities that was isolated from
23 the grid. 15:02

24 In the Northwest Territories, Northlands
25 Utilities, which is also part owned by ATCO has --

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1 ATCO Electric has isolated -- or communities that are
2 served by diesel that was isolated from the grid. So
3 we've got a number of sites. And right now
4 ATCO Electric is funding those costs.

5 Q. Okay. In YCS-YECL-3(d), you talk about what you mean
6 by alternative energy studies, and I'm wondering why --
7 why demand-side management and load management
8 initiatives are not included in these studies if the
9 purpose is for fossil fuel displacement.

10 In YCS 3(a) -- YCS-YECL-3(a), ATCO Electric Yukon
11 says that alternative energy is meant to capture
12 technologies that increase efficiencies of fossil fuel
13 combustion, such as waste heat and district heating.

15:03

14 But why wouldn't electricity thermal storage be
15 included as an alternative energy to increase the
16 efficiencies of that electrical generation?

17 A. MR. TENNEY: You asked quite a few questions
18 there. My mind was still thinking about your why isn't
19 DSM included.

20 Q. Okay. Let's start there. Sorry about that.

15:04

21 A. MR. TENNEY: So why DSM isn't included is -- as
22 you're well aware, we are partnered with Yukon Energy
23 on the "in charge" program on DSM initiatives. We were
24 before this Board last general rate application. They
25 did approve a program and put a date on it. We haven't

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1 decided to move forward with anything else. We're in
2 discussion with Yukon Energy about what our future
3 plans are, but there was nothing that we had that was
4 solid to ask this Board for approval to spend more
5 money.

6 Whenever we get to that point with Yukon Energy,
7 we'll move forward on that, but we thought that was
8 separate. We keep that DSM initiative separate from
9 what we're doing on this feasibility -- renewable and
10 alternative feasible studies. So that was why the
11 difference on DSM.

12 Q. Fair.

13 A. MR. TENNEY: So now your next question was --

14 Q. Load management. Load management.

15 A. MR. TENNEY: What do you mean by "load
16 management"?

17 Q. Well --

18 A. MR. TENNEY: Because as Mr. -- if you mean load
19 management like a smart grid that we control customers'
20 appliances and those types of things, I think that fits
21 into we've talked about, we've asked for, to
22 participate with Yukon Energy on a smart grid study in
23 2017, and I think that might get to some of the load
24 management-type things.

25 Q. Yeah. And part of it may be similarly relevant to grid

15:05

15:05

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1 versus off-grid or micro-grid communities. You
2 mentioned to John Maissan that you had travelled to
3 Alaska and had -- were, you know, benefitting from the
4 experience and teachings of what those communities are
5 doing over there that have wind-diesel systems, where
6 they do have utility-controlled heating devices in
7 their homes that will utilize renewable energy when it
8 is available, which is a technology that can take
9 advantage of the intermittency of renewable energy and
10 also manage the load.

15:06

11 **A. MR. TENNEY:** So we're not opposed to anything,
12 and that's why we're out there looking for people to
13 come in and help us do these feasibility studies.

14 It kind of reminds me of that old saying about
15 walk before we run. We don't have any renewables in
16 our diesel communities. We need to get started. Maybe
17 we don't need to go for the home run right now, just
18 get started on this. It's not to say that we can't
19 progress some of those initiatives.

20 **Q.** Okay. I guess I -- you know, you've talked about the
21 difficulty of the intermittency of renewable energy
22 sources, so I do hope that your alternative energy
23 component of your study looks at some of these
24 technologies that can actually take advantage of that
25 intermittency.

15:07

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1 A. MR. TENNEY: I can assure you that on our grid
2 impact study in Burwash Landing that some of the
3 proponents are pretty keen on that as one of the items
4 that we study.

5 Q. Great. We are keen on it too.

6 I think I just have one more question, and I
7 support DSM and encouraging people to use resources
8 wisely, and I'm just wondering how, you know, for
9 example, in Old Crow, how the diesels are set up. Is
10 there really -- and I don't want to make DSM look like
11 it's not a smart thing to do because I support it, but
12 I'm just wondering, considering what was touched on
13 with John and the size of the diesel generators, you
14 know, perhaps four smaller capacity units rather than
15 three large, would that -- would approaching that way
16 of grading -- you know, if a system is at its
17 end-of-life to be putting in new system in place, do
18 you think that that approach would not only help with
19 the integration of renewables but also, you know,
20 actual diesel savings with DSM programs as well?

15:08

15:09

21 A. MR. MASSIE: Well, I would say that we
22 definitely wouldn't rule anything out at this time.
23 Particular to Old Crow, really when we looked at the
24 size of the generators and there is -- we have answered
25 an IR, and it shows the peak load in Old Crow and -- I

1 believe for last winter, and I can look it up, it has
2 grown to 558 kilowatt or somewhere around there, which
3 is grown considerably in a short time span. And I mean
4 about three to four years.

5 So when we looked at replacing those units, we do
6 do a full load study on the community. We see how long
7 -- not only what the peaks are but how long that the
8 community stays at a certain -- certain load, called a
9 "load duration curve." So we do look at quite a few
10 things in that load study before we select what size
11 generator we're going to procure. 15:10

12 If we were to look at having multiple smaller
13 generators, yes, that could -- that could improve the
14 heat rate, the ability to match to load, so, really,
15 that's what the heat rate of a generating unit does.

16 The most optimum spot for it to run it's going to
17 be the most efficient, and that's going to improve that
18 heat rate of the unit. So those smaller units,
19 multiple smaller units, may do that. They may do that.
20 So I wouldn't rule it out. We definitely would have to
21 understand the costs of it, you know, given the
22 physical dimensions of our existing facilities, if
23 you're adding on facilities. Of course there would be
24 a cost escalations that we'd have to consider. But,
25 again, I would say we definitely wouldn't rule it out. 15:11

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 Q. Thank you.

2 MS. MIDDLEL: Thanks.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Ms. Middler.

4 Seeing the time, would this be a good place to
5 take our break and then come back with Board counsel
6 asking questions?

7 MS. SABO: That's fine with me, Mr. Chairman.

8 THE CHAIR: Okay. So we'll come back at 25
9 after 3.

10 (ADJOURNMENT)

15:12

11 THE CHAIR: Okay. We'll go back on the
12 record.

13 Mr. Williams, do you have anything for us at this
14 time?

15 MR. WILLIAMS: Not at this time, sir.

16 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.

17 Ms. Sabo.

18 MS. SABO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 **MS. SABO QUESTIONS THE PANEL.**

20 Q. Good afternoon, panel. I would just like to start with
21 a little bit of a roadmap so you know where I'm going.
22 I'm actually going to go through the application fairly
23 sequentially. I might have some general potpourri
24 questions or stragglers at the end tomorrow, but I'll
25 try and keep things fairly sequential as we go.

15:32

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 Mr. Grattan, amazingly you and I don't get to talk
2 about depreciation and income tax at the end of the
3 day, which is our normal structure, but I don't think
4 we'll get to that until tomorrow.

5 **A. MR. GRATTAN: I thank you for that.**

6 **Q.** So I'm going to take you to Section 2 of the
7 application where it's sales and revenue and UPC that
8 we're dealing with, and I have actually kind of a
9 high-level question, and you might want to put your
10 economics hats on or your theatrical hats.

15:33

11 We were wondering, when preparing your sales and
12 revenue forecasts, do you look at any other
13 macroeconomic indicators or any sort of sales and
14 revenue forecasts from any other jurisdictions like
15 Alberta and BC to kind of inform you on trending or
16 where things are going?

17 **A. MR. MARTINO: Yes. We review many, many**
18 **aspects. We look at what's generally happening in the**
19 **economy. We look at the trends in -- obviously, in the**
20 **Yukon service area in terms of GDP, unemployment,**
21 **housing developments at a high level. And, yes, we do**
22 **look at -- we're familia with the Alberta service area**
23 **and the way we forecast revenue there.**

15:33

24 So it's really a blend of just our background and
25 knowledge and overview of what we know about -- you

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 know, at a high level what's happening in the economy
2 and also more specific to the Yukon service area.

3 Q. And federally as well?

4 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes. In a general sense, yes.

5 Q. Okay. Okay. Again, your application, which is
6 Exhibit BB-1, I want to take you to hard copy page 2-5,
7 and there's a section update to forecast process, and
8 it starts at line 2.

9 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.

10 Q. And I'm not going to read out the quote, but you
11 describe your methodology, your two-step approach for
12 determining whether normalized usage per customer, UPC,
13 and then you've got a table underneath which describes
14 the regression data and the years and the normal HDD
15 that you use in Step 2. And the change in methodology
16 from the old one and the new one.

17 So you're with me, sir?

18 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.

19 Q. Okay. So given that you have a change in methodology,
20 with respect to UPC, has ATCO Electric Yukon
21 experienced a downward trend in UPC in the past?

22 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes. In these last three or four
23 years we've seen a downward trend in use per customer.

24 Q. Okay. And you say the last few years. So can you be a
25 little bit more specific for me?

15:34

15:35

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1 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes. I can refer you to YUB-6.

2 Q. Great.

3 A. MR. MARTINO: Part (c).

4 Q. Yes. I'm there.

5 A. MR. MARTINO: And we have a graph at the top of
6 page 4 of 4.

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. And this graph goes back to 2006, a ten-year period
9 from 2006 to 2015. And shows the trend in use per
10 customer for both residential and commercial on an
11 actual basis and on a normalized basis.

12 And as evidence, in general we've seen quite an
13 increase in use per customer leading up to 2012
14 followed by a continued decline in use per customer
15 since that time through to 2015 and also what we're
16 experiencing on a continuing basis into 2016.

17 Q. Okay. Yeah. And I see the peak is at '12.

18 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.

19 Q. So can you confirm, given that reference I gave in the
20 application with your methodology, your rationale for
21 why you have proposed a three-year period in your
22 two-step approach model for determining
23 weather-normalized UPC?

24 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes. That's a major reason as to
25 why we've changed our time frame was due to the shift

15:36

15:37

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1 and the change in direction and use per customers
2 starting in 2012.

3 Q. And the other reason, sir?

4 A. MR. MARTINO: So visually we can see, just based
5 on the way the data has been -- the observations we
6 made in the use per customer and also just in terms of
7 what we're seeing in the economy in the last few years
8 and also some of the other conservation initiatives
9 that have been ongoing in the last couple of years and
10 are expected to continue into the test years.

15:38

11 Q. Okay. And changes in economy, you mean the downturn
12 that's --

13 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.

14 Q. -- occurred over the last two or three years?

15 A. MR. MARTINO: Correct. At a high level, we've
16 witnessed that leading up to 2012. There's a lot of
17 growth in the Yukon service area in terms of population
18 growth, the economy, employment. And since that time
19 we've seen not as much growth. In fact, we've seen a
20 lot of -- a downward trend, especially in the mining
21 area, which is a major part of the economic activity in
22 the Yukon service area.

15:38

23 Q. Okay. Thank you.

24 Generally what are weather-normalized values meant
25 to represent?

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1 **A. MR. MARTINO:** It's meant to represent bringing
2 use per customer down to a level that removes the
3 impacts of extreme weather. So we use an average over
4 a period of time to take each year and calibrate that
5 use per customer based to an average over a period of
6 time.

7 **Q.** Okay. And the standard practice when
8 weather-normalizing data is -- normally to use longer
9 periods, say, 10 or 20 years. Yes?

10 **A. MR. MARTINO:** We have used a longer period in
11 the past. Different utilities may use different time
12 periods, and for this application, we shorten that
13 period.

15:39

14 **Q.** And do you know if it's standard industry practice to
15 use a longer term, such as 10 or 20 years?

16 **A. MR. MARTINO:** I've seen different time frames.
17 I believe ATCO -- in ATCO Gas, I believe, they use,
18 like, a ten-year period. They've shortened their
19 period for normalizing over the years to represent more
20 current data. So some of these -- these time periods
21 have changed over time.

15:40

22 **Q.** Okay. And are you aware of any other utilities who
23 have used a three-year period for
24 weather-normalization?

25 **A. MR. MARTINO:** I'm not specifically. We haven't

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1 researched enough utilities to see if anyone is using a
2 three-year period, but in our case we shorten our time
3 frame to improve the accuracy of our forecast and to
4 reflect the changes in the last few years, especially
5 the warming trend that we've seen over the last three
6 years and also continuing into this year.

7 Q. Okay. And since you didn't review any other utilities,
8 are there any other external sources, other than the
9 trend you're seeing for ATCO Electric Yukon, that
10 you're replying upon for a three-year period?

15:41

11 A. MR. MARTINO: Well, in our Alberta service area,
12 we've had a downward trend in use per customer as well,
13 and we've had a difficult time forecasting that due to
14 our methodology.

15 And so based on that, we weighed all these
16 different aspects together to review our methodology
17 and to reflect as much as possible the changes that
18 have occurred over the last few years. And the
19 shortening of the weather-normalization is in
20 conjunction with our regression and our overall
21 methodology to place a lot of weighting on the most
22 recent years.

15:42

23 A. MR. GRATTAN: Just to add to what Mr. Martino
24 was saying, I think you and I had a conversation about
25 use per customer for ATCO Electric a number of months

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1 ago and us trying to get our heads around what was --
2 what is and continues to be going on in Alberta.

3 So regardless of whether we're in Alberta or
4 whether we're in the Yukon, the world is changing on
5 us, in that that most recent time frame is resulting in
6 lower use per customers, not only in Alberta but here
7 in the Yukon.

8 Q. Yeah. Mr. Grattan, that probably wasn't with me, but
9 if it was pipe or gas -- it probably was in other ones,
10 but I imagine it was before the Commission.

15:43

11 A. MR. GRATTAN: No. I thought it was with you --
12 sorry. We'll leave it at that.

13 Q. We'll leave it at that.

14 And I think I know the answer to this,
15 Mr. Martino, but I want to make sure that I'm really
16 clear on why we're using three years.

17 So why is the three-year period recommended rather
18 than five years or seven years? Can you give me a
19 sense on why that's the ideal number for
20 weather-normalization?

15:43

21 A. MR. MARTINO: I'll refer you to page 2-2 of the
22 application.

23 Q. I'm there, sir.

24 A. MR. MARTINO: And Table 2.

25 Q. Yes.

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 A. MR. MARTINO: So what we really witness here is
2 that in 2014 and 2015 our original filed forecast in
3 2014 was 1.9 percents over forecast and, in 2015,
4 negative 2.2 percent, meaning that sales came in that
5 much lower. And the approved forecast compared to our
6 actuals is negative 4.3 percent in 2014 and negative
7 4.7 percent in 2015.

8 And so with this trend that's happened in the last
9 few years in terms of overforecasting, both how we
10 originally filed and how the final approved forecast
11 was arrived at, we took this upon ourselves to review
12 our methodology, to review the changes that have
13 occurred in use per customer in the last few years to
14 improve the accuracy of our forecast.

15 And as we illustrated earlier with
16 Mr. Roger Rondeau in UCG-11, we were -- refer to
17 UCG-11.

18 Q. Yes, sir.

19 A. MR. MARTINO: In this table, we were asked to
20 update our forecast to reflect the latest actuals to
21 the end of June; and at that point, when we prepared
22 this IR, our updated forecast at that point was
23 still -- we were still overforecasting, but yet we're
24 still fairly accurate at about -- we're within about
25 .5 percent at that point in time.

15:45

15:45

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
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1 Now that we have actuals to the end of September,
2 we reviewed our methodology, our forecast comparing to
3 actuals at this point, and we're within .3 percent
4 compared to actuals. And we believe that by changing
5 our methodology, it has, to this point in time, fared
6 well. It's been a marked improvement. We also
7 compared this to the previous methodology which would
8 continue to overforecast by more than 1.1 percent.

9 And so combined with what we've seen the last few
10 years, we believe that this change was necessary to
11 tighten up our forecast because the last couple years
12 were not very good.

13 Q. Given that it's a shorter period of time to use, isn't
14 there a risk that by using a shorter period you could
15 actually have -- you could accentuate the growth or
16 decline for future years by shortening that term rather
17 than having a longer term like ten years where you have
18 a rolling average and you know what's happening
19 recently has kind of been incorporated into that. Can
20 you comment on that? How do we know the shorter term's
21 a better predictor of the future and we won't have a
22 concern there?

23 A. MR. MARTINO: So one of the things we observed
24 was that using the shorter time period, and our
25 regression still produced R-squared values and T stats

15:47

15:47

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
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1 in UCG-14 -- we were asked about the relevance of using
2 a shorter time period in UCG-14(a), and we indicate
3 there that the shorter time period produces very highly
4 statistical relevant coefficients, and they've
5 increased the coefficients that are impacted by
6 weather, which is reflecting the latest changes in use
7 per customer over the last few years.

8 Q. So did you run that model using, say, five years or ten
9 years to see what the correlation coefficients or the
10 R squares would be, or did you just run it for three?

15:49

11 A. MR. MARTINO: Essentially really for the
12 three-year period. And, really, they're not
13 dramatically different. Once you have a certain amount
14 of data, because you're dealing with all those just
15 three years. You still have 36 months, which starts to
16 get you into statistically sound, you know, amount of
17 data points. So with that, we felt very comfortable
18 that this was the period.

19 We also -- we tested it on -- you know, obviously
20 we had the first few months of actuals. We tested it
21 on a previous year to see how close our forecasting
22 this change in methodology, and we were finding that
23 this method was far more accurate and far superior to
24 the previous methodology.

15:49

25 Q. Okay. Thank you. On an interrelated question but not

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 the same -- exact same track, is there an optimal
2 averaging period for predicting heating degree days for
3 a forecast period?

4 A. MR. MARTINO: An optimal period?

5 Q. Yeah.

6 A. MR. MARTINO: Well, if you're trying to forecast
7 this year, yes, the last few years would have been a
8 lot more accurate than using 20 years.

9 Q. Could you use something like ten for heating --
10 predicting heating degree days, ten years?

15:51

11 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes, you can use whatever
12 interval; but, again, like I said for this time period,
13 if you would have used -- even just with the last three
14 years, you still would have found that you would have
15 been off because it's coming in warmer than what the
16 last three years would have suggested.

17 Q. Okay. There's been quite a bit of discussion about
18 Demand Site Management and sales forecasting. But I
19 did have one follow-up.

20 How does ATCO Electric Yukon's UPC proposal take
21 into account the recent trends due to DSM and either
22 Territorial Government initiatives such as the
23 Commercial Energy Incentive Program?

15:51

24 A. MR. MARTINO: So, yes, in response to
25 YUB-YECL-6, we responded to all the -- and described

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1 all the different programs, as you mentioned. And we
2 have attachments there that indicate the reduced use
3 per customer that comes about from these different
4 programs.

5 And we discussed earlier with Mr. Rondeau in terms
6 of the deemed savings that are -- that result from the
7 DSM in terms of LED light, switch outs to block heater
8 timers. The Commercial Energy Program is another LED
9 lighting upgrade program.

10 The micro-gen, we've discussed that as well in
11 terms of that is -- we expect to keep increasing in
12 terms of number of customers that will be installing
13 solar or other type of micro-gen.

15:53

14 So with all that we've -- we've considered all
15 these initiatives, especially as they've really ramped
16 up in the last couple of years and how we expect to
17 continue to ramp up is to another reason as to why we
18 focused on a shorter period in the last few years to
19 ensure that we're capturing this use per customer that
20 is being impacted by these types of initiatives.

15:53

21 Q. Do you know if -- I think we're calling it "CEIP," or
22 C-E-I-P, programs is expected to be renewed?

23 A. MR. MARTINO: Well, here -- yeah. We indicate
24 that it ends in March of 2017, but recognizing that
25 once customers have switched out their LED lighting

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1 into LED lighting, those savings will continue
2 thereafter impacting 2016 and onwards because we'll
3 have reduced use per customer on an ongoing basis.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. MR. MASSIE: I can also add for that program.
6 So we have had discussions with energy, mines and
7 resource branch of the Yukon Government with regards to
8 it.

9 Interestingly enough, that particular branch
10 administers the programs. They're quite pleased with
11 it. They do see it expanding or continuing past.
12 However, they've made it clear that given the results
13 of this election and the direction of the new
14 government would really focus -- that would have to be
15 before them to -- to approve or not, the expansion of
16 the program or continued use of it.

15:54

17 Q. Okay. Thank you for that addition.

18 And getting back to our three-year time frame,
19 Mr. Martino, why is the three-year time frame being
20 applied to the previous year's UPC? Why is that more
21 appropriate than using an average growth rate?

15:55

22 A. MR. MARTINO: So for forecasting 2016, our base
23 year would be '15. And then for forecasting 2017, the
24 base year would be 2016. So you always use the prior
25 year as a base to forecast the subsequent year.

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 Q. Okay. And you beat me to IR-6(b) already where we
2 talked about the economic downturn as part of that
3 response.

4 Actually, I think it was in Response (c) it says:
5 (as read)

6 "However, with the recent slow down in
7 the economy and fewer new developments,
8 the adoption of electric heat has
9 lessened."

10 And that's on pdf page 51 for those people that are
11 following along.

15:56

12 A. MR. MARTINO: Okay.

13 Q. Okay. How has ATCO Electric Yukon determined and
14 accounted for incremental changes in electric heating
15 in the past compared to each year of the test period
16 because of things like economic downturn? Have you
17 adjusted for that in your forecast?

18 A. MR. MARTINO: Again, so nothing specific; but,
19 again, with electric heat that -- heating that has
20 impacted use per customer over the years, we were
21 finding that the weather impacts those customers even
22 more that have electric heat, and that was another
23 reason for us to shorten the time frame as to make sure
24 that we're recognizing as much of that impacted as
25 possible. And that's resulted in a higher coefficient

15:56

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1 that is related to weather.

2 Q. Okay. And moving to Response (e) of that same IR on
3 pdf page 51.

4 A. **MR. MARTINO:** **Yes.**

5 Q. Is this that response, ATCO Electric Yukon states:

6 (as read)

7 "It is not specifically incorporated
8 climate change into the sales forecast
9 because there isn't any specific
10 information available that would allow
11 ATCO Electric Yukon to model the effect
12 of UPC."

15:57

13 And then two sentences down it says: (as read)

14 "ATCO Electric Yukon made these changes
15 to better reflect the warming trends of
16 the past few years into the sales
17 forecast."

18 So give those comments, Mr. Martino, can you provide
19 details on whether or not this trend will continue over
20 the test period and what analysis you've performed that
21 would support that?

15:58

22 A. **MR. MARTINO:** **So, I mean, we're not business of**
23 **forecasting weather although there are various**
24 **publications that have, perhaps, long-term suggestions;**
25 **but, as we've discussed, we have witnessed a warming**

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1 trend over the last few years that, I would say, are
2 unparalleled over as many years as we've gone back.

3 And earlier this year we knew that 2015 was,
4 perhaps, one of the warmer years we have seen in the
5 Yukon service area. And what we find now on a
6 year-to-date basis, now that we have further data on
7 heating degree days, on a year-to-day basis, the
8 weather has been even warmer yet than 2015.

9 So we weren't trying to predict that that would
10 happen, but we're not, I guess, overly surprised that
11 this warming trend has continued. As to how much
12 further it is going to continue, we don't know.

13 But that's one of the factors that we've used in
14 conjunction with the other aspects that we've
15 discussed.

16 But, yes, we've tried to make the last three
17 years, in terms of the impact weather has had on use
18 per customer as relevant as possible for forecasting
19 these test years.

20 Q. And maybe there hasn't been warming trends of the same
21 magnitude; but are you aware of any other years in the
22 past, say, 20 years where there's kind of been a
23 warming trend and then you see kind of a reverberation
24 to a cool trend? Does anything come to mind?

25 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes. I mean, there are years

15:59

15:59

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1 where you'll have one or two warm years followed by one
2 or two cold years, but I would say that based on the
3 data that I have that goes back to the early 1990s
4 these last few years are unprecedented.

5 Q. Okay. I'd like to have you pull you up Commission Aid
6 to Questioning 3 and Aid to Questioning Number 4.

7 And I should note Aid to Questioning 3 we'll pass
8 it out, but that table is actually part of the record.
9 When I sent this out late Friday, I wasn't sure if my
10 staff made any edits to it or not. So I just included
11 it for reference. 16:00

12 So the Aid to Cross 3 is a table showing
13 historical UPC for Whitehorse, and it includes Takhini
14 and Deep Creek, and aid to cross -- Aid to Questioning
15 Number 4 is historical UPC as well, but we've just done
16 some math on the years from the first page of the table
17 to the second page of the table looking at differences.

18 A. **MR. MARTINO:** Yes.

19 Q. Yeah. So you understand the numbers highlighted are
20 just the differences in amounts between the first page
21 of the aid and the second. 16:01

22 A. **MR. MARTINO:** Yes.

23 Q. Thank you. And I'll just give Ms. Lemke a moment here.

24 Sorry. We just noted that the copies we just
25 passed out to the panel and to the room just don't have

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1 that second sheet to Attachment 4. So we'll make sure
2 that is corrected once the exhibit is marked, and we'll
3 make sure that gets distributed after.

4 So, Mr. Martino, after that grand introduction of
5 this aid, I actually have a very simple question for
6 you. Why were Takhini and Deep Creek added to
7 Whitehorse load? We noticed from 2013, Deep Creek
8 wasn't on this, and in past years Takhini wasn't as
9 well.

10 So can you maybe give me some context for why
11 they're added in?

12 **A. MR. MARTINO:** So in the previous GRA, in the '13
13 to '15 GRA, Takhini was part of Whitehorse. We didn't
14 split it out. It wasn't in the notation. Deep Creek
15 was a separate community, you know, in the last rate
16 application. Since then, Deep Creek, my understanding,
17 is now part of the Whitehorse integrated in the
18 Whitehorse hydro system. So, really, the difference is
19 that we've combined Deep Creek with Whitehorse and
20 combined the use per customer back to 1998. So all it
21 is is just combining the two communities now.

22 **Q.** Okay. And is there a large difference between adding
23 Deep Creek on to these numbers versus having them
24 removed?

25 **A. MR. MARTINO:** No. It's a very small community.

16:03

16:04

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 I believe that we're looking at about 40 customers.
2 And the average use per customer is about
3 5,500 kilowatt hours a year versus, you know, 10,500
4 for Whitehorse. So when you blend the two, you get a
5 small reduction per year.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. MR. MARTINO: On a weighted-average basis.

8 Q. And when you say a "small reduction," I imagine it
9 wouldn't be material to those numbers that we've
10 highlighted on that aid to cross?

16:04

11 A. MR. MARTINO: Yeah, it's a reduction to the --
12 when you combine them, but it's still the same use per
13 customer both datasets; right? It's just -- now that
14 it's combined, you get -- on a weighted average, the
15 use per customer becomes a little bit lower.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. MR. MASSIE: And also just to add, so the
18 Deep Creek subdivision, so previously it was served off
19 of Yukon Energy's transmission system. So it's been
20 hooked into our Whitehorse distribution system now just
21 north of the city, so that's why we've pulled it in.

16:05

22 Q. Okay. Great.

23 Thank you, Mr. Martino.

24 Mr. --

25 THE CHAIR: So should we assign a --

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 MS. SABO: Yes. Like I say, we don't need to
2 assign an exhibit to the Aid to Cross 3, Mr. Chairman,
3 but we do to the Aid to Cross 4, which is the
4 historical UPC for Whitehorse, including Takhini and
5 Deep Creek with Board-included numbers.

6 THE CHAIR: So we'll call -- the Aid to Cross
7 Number 4 will be Exhibit A-18.

8 EXHIBIT A-18 - AID TO CROSS NUMBER 4,
9 THE HISTORICAL UPC FOR WHITEHORSE,
10 INCLUDING TAKHINI AND DEEP CREEK WITH
11 BOARD-INCLUDED NUMBERS

16:06

12 MS. SABO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 Q. I'd like to take you back to the IR Response 5(b), and
14 look at the Attachment 1, which is a spreadsheet.

15 A. MR. MARTINO: Yes.

16 Q. And the Board notes that some of the UPC differentials
17 for Whitehorse in that spreadsheet for the period from
18 1998 to 2012, that some of those numbers, certain years
19 varied greater than 20 kilowatt hours. Can you just
20 maybe give me so more detail on what the reasons for
21 those variances with?

16:06

22 A. MR. MARTINO: They vary from -- sorry, from
23 where?

24 Q. From 2013 to 2015. Just hearing that, that's partly
25 related to the second page of Aid to Questioning

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 Number 4.

2 So let's go back to Aid to Cross 4 and just look
3 at some of those highlighted yellow numbers, say, from
4 2018 -- sorry, 2008 to 2012. So can you explain why
5 the historical UPC is trended to be over 20 kilowatt
6 hours where it hadn't been in the earlier years from
7 '96 to 2005, say?

8 A. MR. MARTINO: And so you're referring to page 2
9 from your aid?

10 Q. Yes.

11 A. MR. MARTINO: Okay. So that one is from the
12 previous general rate application.

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. MR. MARTINO: So in that application, those use
15 per customers do not include Deep Creek.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. MR. MARTINO: And in here, we are including
18 Deep Creek in the application -- this application.

19 Q. Okay. And when we look at the first page of the aid to
20 cross where we looked at the numbers from the second
21 page from the previous GRA and now we're looking at the
22 numbers from your application from '16-'17 and we've
23 subtracted those amounts to come up with the
24 difference, it seems like there's a trend highlighted
25 in yellow that the -- this historical UPC variance has

16:08

16:09

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1 increased compared to your previous application between
2 2008 and 2012.

3 So we're just wondering, why is it starting to
4 vary more than historical? Is it just because of the
5 inclusion of Takhini and Deep Creek?

6 A. MR. MARTINO: So, I guess, yeah, Mr. Gunn
7 (phonetic) has pointed out, so we understand why
8 there's a difference between two tables from one
9 application to the other. It's just more the -- why
10 the difference has grown over time, like, from, you
11 know, 17 kilowatt hours in '98 to 21 in 2012?

16:10

12 Q. Yeah, we're just trying to get an idea of what's going
13 on here in terms of trending.

14 A. MR. MARTINO: It just could be the growth in the
15 customer base in Deep Creek that's changed over time.
16 I believe the -- the number of customers would have
17 increased their -- at a higher level than they have in
18 the Whitehorse areas.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. MR. MARTINO: I believe that's the reason
21 it's -- the number of customers has increased at a
22 higher rate in Deep Creek than they have for
23 Whitehorse.

16:10

24 Q. Okay. Yeah, I just wasn't sure. So given that you
25 said earlier the change wouldn't be much for the

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 inclusion of Deep Creek, how does that impact or change
2 what you just told me, that there seems to be a
3 correlation there?

4 A. MR. MARTINO: So just to restate. okay, so in
5 the last general rate application -- so we have -- I
6 believe it's 18 or 19 communities. Okay. So we had a
7 use-per-customer forecast or tables for Whitehorse,
8 which includes Takhini, and Deep Creek was on its own
9 as a separate community. In this general rate
10 application, we've combined Deep Creek into Whitehorse 16:11
11 as one group, one community. The use per customer for
12 Deep Creek is significantly lower than it is for
13 Whitehorse, but they're small in numbers. Like,
14 there's about 40 customers, whereas in Deep Creek,
15 there's about 40 customers in Whitehorse. We have, I
16 don't know, close to 14,000.

17 So when you combine all this, you get a lower use
18 per customer, but it's still the same data. It's still
19 the same aggregate energy and aggregate customers, but
20 when you combine, them, you combine a lower use per 16:12
21 customer. It fractionally drops the use per customer
22 when you combine it. And it's about 20 kilowatt hours
23 a year.

24 Q. Thank you, Mr. Martino. We're on the same page now.

25 A. MR. MARTINO: Okay.

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 Q. I'm going to move to Section 5 of the application which
2 deals with O&M and FTEs and allocations.

3 And, Mr. Massie, I believe this is your area. We
4 handed out or we gave to counsel an Aid to Cross 5
5 which is organizational charts that are on the record,
6 as well as organizational charts from your last GRA.
7 Do you have a copy of that chart, sir?

8 A. MR. MASSIE: Yes, I do.

9 Q. Good. We have been trying to connect all the dots
10 between all these organizational charts to make sure we
11 understand what positions have changed and what
12 positions have moved to other departments.

13 So I'd just like to ask you a few questions about
14 that.

15 A. MR. MASSIE: Sure thing.

16 Q. So I want to first confirm, have all the DSM-related
17 positions been removed in the 2016-'17 GRA FTEs
18 complement?

19 A. MR. MASSIE: Yes, the DSM administrator
20 position ended in 2015.

21 Q. Okay. And...

22 A. MR. MASSIE: Just that -- yeah, just that
23 position.

24 A. MR. GRATTAN: You said "positions." I think --

25 Q. There's only one?

16:13

16:13

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** -- I just wanted to make sure. It
2 was one.

3 **Q.** It was a lonely number.

4 In Board Order 2014-06 -- and I've got the
5 reference, but I don't think you need to pull it up.
6 You might know this offhand.

7 At page 13 of 105 the Board directed that the
8 complement -- ATCO Electric Yukon's complement be
9 reduced by three positions, one of which had to relate
10 to accounting and finance.

16:14

11 Is that your understanding, Mr. Massie?

12 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Yes, that's my understanding.

13 **Q.** Okay. And based on that direction, which three
14 positions were reduced? We think we know, but I'd like
15 to just confirm with you.

16 **A. MR. MASSIE:** I can speak to the two. So if I
17 recall from the compliance filing there was a PLT
18 apprentice that was removed and a customer service
19 representative that was removed.

20 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** And the third was the removal of a
21 corporate accountant.

16:14

22 **Q.** Thank you.

23 When looking at the customer accounting and admin
24 between your last GRA and the current '16-'17
25 application, we noted the accounting positions are down

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1 by two but the financials assistants have moved to the
2 VP northern development title, and ultimately that
3 means no change in the complement for that northern
4 development position. Yes?

5 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Correct.**

6 **Q.** Okay. And the financial assistants have moved from
7 reporting to the ATCO Electric Yukon manager to
8 reporting to the VP of northern development. Yes?

9 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Yes. Once again, no change in**
10 **complement.**

16:15

11 **Q.** Okay. And can you just explain why that change has
12 occurred in the reporting structure for those
13 employees? That's fine.

14 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Mr. Tenney's just wanting just to**
15 **clarify that the two financial assistants report up**
16 **through to the supervisor of business support services.**
17 **It's not a direct report to the vice-president northern**
18 **development.**

19 **Q.** Mr. Tenney, I'm sure you've got other things to do.

20 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Sorry. Go ahead with your next**
21 **question, please.**

16:16

22 **Q.** Okay. I just wanted to know, why has there been that
23 change in the reporting structure for those positions,
24 the financial assistant positions?

25 **A. MR. GRATTAN: The -- I think the goal was to**

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 have those people more tightly tied to northern,
2 northern operations and the people in the north as
3 opposed to the reporting structure that was there
4 before.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. MR. GRATTAN: Mr. Massie might be able to help
7 with that, or not.

8 A. MR. MASSIE: No. That summed it up.

9 Q. Okay. And do those positions perform work for other
10 northern utilities or just ATCO Electric Yukon?

16:17

11 A. MR. GRATTAN: The financial positions -- the
12 financial assistant positions are 100 percent
13 ATCO Electric Yukon.

14 Q. Thank you.

15 And we noted it appears that the executive
16 assistant position had been removed. Can you confirm
17 that?

18 A. MR. GRATTAN: Yes.

19 Q. And who's performing those functions that the executive
20 assistant used to deal with?

16:18

21 A. MR. TENNEY: I think they've spread around a
22 little bit. I get to do a lot of them on my own, and
23 some of them are taken care of by the supervisor from
24 business support services. So it's kind of a
25 combination of where things are.

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1 The main reason is this position is now based out
2 of Edmonton and so it really made no sense to have an
3 executive assistant position based in Yukon.

4 Q. And can you just give me a little more detail,
5 Mr. Tenney, on kind of what duties went where, what
6 went to you and what went elsewhere?

7 A. MR. TENNEY: So I'm not sure how much I'll give
8 you of all the tasks, but the executive assistant
9 performed a number of functions for us. She had some
10 responsibilities with some human resource functions. 16:19
11 Some of those have went back to Edmonton when it comes
12 to relocations and those type of things.

13 Some of them have moved over to the administrative
14 assistant. Some of those I can tell you when it comes
15 to doing expense -- when it comes to doing expense
16 accounts and some of that, that's moved to the
17 supervisor business support services. When it comes to
18 scheduling travel and meeting, that's moved to me.

19 I don't know if there's other things that you can
20 think of, Mr. Massie. 16:19

21 A. MR. MASSIE: Yes. And I would say that a lot
22 of the reporting that we do into the Yukon Utilities
23 Board, such as our outage reports and our KPIs, flow
24 through supervisor of customer accounting and admin.

25 Q. So it would it be fair to say that some of her duties

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 were transferred people at the same -- an equivalent
2 pay grade to what she would be and some would be a
3 higher pay grade? Can you give me a sense of that?

4 **A. MR. MASSIE:** **Okay. The supervisor business**
5 **services would have been equivalent position. The**
6 **administrative assistant would be a lower paid**
7 **position, for lack of a better term. And the**
8 **supervisor customer accounting was a -- is a higher**
9 **bracket, and I believe the VP of northern development**
10 **is higher, too.**

16:21

11 **Q.** I would hope so, Mr. Tenney, although I do my own
12 secretarial work as well. So I do have some empathy.

13 I'm going to take you to the response to
14 YUB-YECL-32, and that was in Exhibit B-9, and I don't
15 think you need to have it pulled up, but you certainly
16 can. It's at pdf page 303. And again it's IR 32(a).

17 And part of that response on page 1 of 2 in the
18 hard copies says: (as read)

19 "Additional business support tasks that
20 was previously performed by the
21 executive assistant role that no longer
22 exists are now performed by the
23 supervisor business support services."

16:21

24 So my question is, is it the case that the supervisor
25 business support services position at a higher pay grade

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 than the executive assistant? And I think the answer is
2 yes, given what you've said.

3 **A. MR. MASSIE:** I believe that I said that the
4 supervisor business support was equivalent.

5 **Q.** Okay. Thank you.

6 **A. MR. MASSIE:** If I didn't, I'll correct that
7 right now but --

8 **Q.** I may have misheard. Thank you.

9 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Okay.

10 **Q.** Now, moving -- there's a reduction to a line service
11 technician; correct? That's been removed or reduced?

12 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Well, not exactly. As a PLT
13 service, yeah, the number has been reduced to eight,
14 but you'll see on -- under the construction supervisor
15 that the power line technician apprentices have
16 increased by one.

17 So, yeah, we've lost an journeyman lineman, and we
18 now have a second apprentice that -- to fulfil that
19 spot eventually.

20 For us, we operate our -- our apprentices are
21 organized under the construction supervisor and team
22 because they work in a team environment as opposed to
23 the service guys that work by themselves.

24 **Q.** Okay. Note that engineering has been split into two
25 groups, generation and distribution engineering. What

16:22

16:23

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 was the rationale for that split?

2 A. MR. MASSIE: The rationale really was around
3 getting a -- our generation group into a focus group to
4 work on our generation program. So you'll see in the
5 last couple of years we've had a fairly intense capital
6 generation program. To be honest, you know, I think we
7 have should have -- did this back in 2013, given the
8 quantum of work that was -- had to have been completed
9 in that generation capital program. So really, that
10 was the reason for the split, is get that group focused
11 on generation. 16:24

12 Under the supervising engineer of distribution,
13 the previous organization, that planning supervisor at
14 the bottom, the planning supervisor, the engineering
15 tech, there was two of them, and the environmental
16 technologists. Those folks were dedicated to
17 generation, but this was more of pulling them out and
18 having them focus on generation and ensuring that the
19 distribution group focused on distribution.

20 Q. Okay. And in your opinion, Mr. Massie, has there been
21 any reduced flexibility to deal with transmission or
22 distribution issues because of dividing those groups
23 into two? 16:25

24 A. MR. MASSIE: Between distribution and
25 generation?

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 Q. Yes, sorry, generation.

2 A. MR. MASSIE: Yeah, no, that's fair. No. No,
3 not in my opinion. They work side by side; they're on
4 the same floor. They're really -- majority of them
5 didn't move their offices, so, you know, they're still
6 in the same spots. They work very closely together.
7 It's just the distribution folks do have different
8 tasks very defined -- or different tasks than the
9 generation folks do, but they do work closely together.

10 Q. And if you needed somebody from one group, you pull
11 them over for expertise if there was a certain matter
12 that needed to be addressed by somebody from the other
13 group?

16:26

14 A. MR. MASSIE: Oh, yeah. Yeah, it is definitely
15 a team effort. Again, they're in a -- they're all on
16 the same floor side by side, so they're very close to
17 each other that way.

18 Q. Thank you. Of the two supervising engineers, is one
19 previously the planning engineer position reflected in
20 the '13-'15 GRA?

16:26

21 A. MR. MASSIE: Yes, the planning supervisor
22 position, yes, that became the supervising engineer of
23 generation, that position.

24 Q. Okay. Thank you. Can you explain why the new
25 engineering technologist position has been added and

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 why the environmental technologist position was
2 eliminated?

3 **A. MR. MASSIE:** Well, it was really, again, in
4 answer -- like I said previously, it should have been
5 done a little sooner, I think -- in answer to our
6 intensive generation capital program. So the
7 engineering technologist that we have now in
8 generation, one is based -- a civil-based technologist,
9 one is an electrical technologist. This third
10 technologist position that we are looking for is a
11 mechanical.

16:27

12 **Q.** Okay.

13 **A. MR. MASSIE:** It really brings all the
14 disciplines together. We don't have that currently.
15 We've basically weighed -- the tasks that we had in the
16 business need really was greater for the -- for a
17 mechanical technologist as opposed to environmental
18 technologist. Those tasks that they would do still
19 need to be done. Fortunately we're able to get them
20 done by a local contractor that's got a background in
21 that field, so it works well for that to cover off
22 those tasks.

16:28

23 **Q.** Okay. And the head office complement was increased by
24 one, a corporate accountant position. What was the
25 rationale for adding that position?

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 A. MR. GRATTAN: So that goes back to our last time
2 before this Board where we had put forth the case that
3 we needed a position. The Board in its decision stated
4 that we needed to remove an accounting position, so
5 from a revenue requirement point of view we did remove
6 the position, but we did not remove on an actuals basis
7 the position. So we continued to employ a manager at
8 .5, a supervisor at one FTE, and a corporate accountant
9 at one FTE. So those two and a half positions, even
10 though we only had one and a half positions in revenue
11 requirement, continued to be incurred. They're
12 responsible, obviously, for all of our financial
13 reporting, our accounting, our business plans and
14 forecasting, pulling together our regulatory
15 applications, cash forecasting, internal controls,
16 pretty much anything that has to do with running a
17 utility with 200 plus dollars of assets.

16:29

18 Q. Okay. And to follow up on that, what duties are the
19 corporate accountants doing that were not included in
20 either the financial analyst position or the
21 operational accountant's position? Can you give me an
22 idea, Mr. Grattan?

16:30

23 A. MR. GRATTAN: Sure. The operational -- sorry,
24 the financial assistants, the financial assistants are
25 primarily tasks with accounts receivable, accounts

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 payable, and I'm going to miss a few things that may be
2 Mr. Massie is going to be able to help me with, but
3 basically high-level non-designated accountant level
4 tasks and responsibilities dealing with the paper
5 coming in and out of Whitehorse.

6 The operational accountant is there to support the
7 capital program, and either when it comes to helping
8 forecast capital projects, reporting on actuals,
9 anything that comes to -- that's tied to that. And I
10 think Mr. Massie might be able to help me a little bit
11 more on additional items that may be there.

16:31

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. MR. MASSIE: For -- yeah, for the financial
14 assistants, I guess you did sum it up well that they're
15 locally based here in the downtown office, and they do
16 hire or do handle the paper in and out. Operational
17 accountant definitely does all the capital reporting
18 but also will work with us to keep our operating
19 budgets to notify the supervisors that are in charge of
20 those budgets, give them the information they need to
21 ensure that they stay on that track, I guess.

16:31

22 Q. Great. And are there varying pay grades for those
23 three different types of positions or varying pay
24 grades within those positions?

25 A. MR. GRATTAN: The financial assistants are

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 within the association as -- it's maybe not the right
2 word, but they're senior clerical folks that are tasked
3 with the receivables and the payables, et cetera. And
4 the operational accountant, we -- we determined that
5 there's a need for a designated accountant in that
6 position, and that is out of scope.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. MR. GRATTAN: Out-of-scope position.

9 Q. Okay. Back to mechanical engineering assistants. We'd
10 just like to confirm that the third mechanical
11 engineering assistant, have they been hired yet in
12 2016, or is that position still outstanding?

13 A. MR. MASSIE: Unfortunately it is outstanding.
14 We went through a recruitment process, so the
15 recruitment process, the interviewing process. We
16 offered the position to a candidate, and unfortunately
17 they have changed their mind, so we're back at square
18 one.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. MR. MASSIE: Which would be the recruitment
21 processes again.

22 Q. Reposting? Starting over?

23 A. MR. MASSIE: Yes.

24 Q. And you can take this next question subject to check if
25 you need to, but we noticed in the 2013 to 2015 GRA

16:32

16:33

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 ATCO Electric Yukon requested new positions for a
2 warehouse assistant, an environmental technician, a
3 customer service adviser, and a power line technician,
4 and we didn't see all of those positions in the current
5 application.

6 Can you just explain why that would be the case?

7 A. MR. MASSIE: Sorry. Could you repeat the
8 position --

9 Q. I can repeat them.

10 A. MR. MASSIE: -- just the positions.

16:34

11 Q. Yeah. Warehouse assistant, environmental technician,
12 customer service adviser, and a power line technician.

13 A. MR. MASSIE: Would that be a construction
14 assistant? Is that the warehouse assistant we're
15 describing? I have it on -- I see it on...

16 Q. It could be, sir. Like I say, I've got warehouse
17 assistant, but that might be referring to the same
18 position.

19 A. MR. MASSIE: Just in that org chart from 2015
20 approved, I see the position under the warehouseman
21 there's a stock keeper warehouseman in that position.
22 So I would assume that's the one.

16:35

23 Q. Okay. Thank you.

24 A. MR. MASSIE: Okay. So the PLT, if I recall
25 correctly, was the apprentice. Again, in our

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 compliance filing that is one of the positions that we
2 removed.

3 At that time, really, was -- want to make sure
4 none of our PLTs are here. We had a fairly aging fleet
5 of PLTs. So we were looking at having apprentices come
6 in, get trained. It takes four years before they're
7 journeyman. So that's really what we were looking at.

8 So when we were -- we disallowed or we picked that
9 position that it wouldn't be filled as we did have a
10 full complement of PLTs at that time.

16:36

11 Since then, like we noted earlier, a PLT service
12 position came up open, and we made that into an
13 apprentice position. So we've kind of filled it that
14 way or restocked our next generation of PLTs in that
15 manner.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. MR. MASSIE: The enviro tech position, as I
18 described, we really converted that into our mechanical
19 tech position. Again, the duties that we were looking
20 at that position covering we have been able to cover
21 off through a combination of a local contractor, as
22 well as one of our other tech positions that covers off
23 the majority of the permitting and monitoring that was
24 involved with our Fish Lake water system, our water
25 license. It mandated a number of environmental and

16:36

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 habitat monitoring. So we were able to do it through
2 that combination.

3 Our health and safety environment coordinator, he
4 does our diesel emissions reporting on a yearly basis.
5 So he handles that. Those are a couple of positions
6 that -- or tasks that that position covered.

7 The construction assistant --

8 Q. Customer service adviser?

9 A. MR. MASSIE: Oh, yeah. Sorry. I was moving --
10 now I got the title wrong construction assistant. 16:37
11 That's what I was moving to next. Just moving down my
12 list.

13 So that position, if we look in our -- at your
14 current -- at the current 2016-'17 org chart under the
15 supervising engineer of distribution, there's
16 engineering assistants there, and there's five.

17 And in the 2015 org chart, there were four. And
18 for reason in that org chart we have a list of them as
19 three, and then we have one down below to the left. We
20 didn't put them all together for some reason, but there 16:38
21 was four of them there.

22 This, again, we looked at what we needed for work
23 in our capital program. We decided that really an
24 engineering assistant was a position we needed more
25 than the construction assistant. The construction

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 assistant position really was going to be a clerical or
2 admin-based position.

3 The engineering assistants, they work with our
4 consumers, and they work on projects to build project
5 files and put them together for approval by the -- by
6 the supervising engineer, and then those projects --
7 line projects will go out to get built by the crews.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. MR. MASSIE: The customer service adviser. I
10 know the last time we were looking at that there was --
11 we were looking at the growth in customers, the demand
12 that our front office folks were handling. So these
13 folks are in our downtown office building. So they
14 handle the phone calls from customers.

16:39

15 They basically -- between the five positions that
16 are there, they handle all 17,000 of our customers. So
17 they have -- any customers of that concerns with their
18 big billing or have customer requests for ons/offers,
19 things like that -- when they phone into the office,
20 this is who they talk to. These -- our customer
21 service advisers also handle any of the walk-in traffic
22 at the downtown office for billing options.

16:40

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. MR. MASSIE: So if I recall correctly in our
25 last GRA, we were concerned about the amount of

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 workload that was happening in there with the growth of
2 customers, the demand on this group.

3 What has changed between now and then is we
4 have -- there was a period of time where we have
5 stopped taking cash payments at our office. We've
6 changed our options with -- you will see an epost
7 project that was put together. We have put together a
8 payment -- preauthorized payment plans, and we did a
9 lot of advertising or messaging for customers to go to
10 these automatic plans.

16:41

11 So instead of coming into the office to pay, they
12 can be a little more modern and go through epost
13 billing or online banking.

14 With this removal of that cash system, there
15 really has been a drop in the walk-in traffic at that
16 office.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. MR. MASSIE: So today really they have been
19 able to manage how they have.

20 Q. Okay. Great. Thank you.

16:41

21 We noted in two IRs in Exhibit B-9, IR 39 and
22 IR 33, you do some comparisons of -- and that's IR 31
23 I'm looking at pdf 305.

24 And in that IR, it says: (as read)

25 "The cost allocations of manager

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 financial reporting and accounting of
2 north is based on various factors,
3 including..."

4 And then the response goes on, and one of the
5 sub-bullets is: (as read)

6 "ATCO Electric Yukon has more than
7 60 percent higher number of customers
8 than Northland Utilities."

9 And there was also a reference to Northland Utilities in
10 terms of the customer service and accounting and
11 administration staff in IR 33(a), which I don't think
12 you needed to go to.

13 My question is, is when you're referring to
14 Northland Utilities in these IRs, are you referring to
15 Northland Utilities Yellowknife or Northland Utilities
16 Northwest Territories or both?

17 **A. MR. GRATTAN: Both. It's basically the two**
18 **Northland companies in the Northwest Territories.**

19 **Q.** Is it fair to say that what is captioned for the
20 manager of financials reporting and accounting north of
21 60 is also a good comparison for all of the
22 Northern Utilities, or not, Mr. Grattan?

23 **A. MR. GRATTAN: I'm not sure I understand what you**
24 **mean by "good comparison."**

25 **Q.** Okay.

16:42

16:43

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** That the -- the bullets that we've
2 got there?

3 **Q.** Yes.

4 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** So ATCO has three northern
5 utilities, Northland Utilities, NWT, which is based in
6 Hay River; Northland Utilities, Yellowknife, based in
7 Yellowknife; and ATCO Electric Yukon. So there's the
8 three of them. And those bullets that we've detailed
9 there I think are most definitely an accurate
10 representation of the relative traffic that the three
11 -- that the Northland versus ATCO Electric Yukon
12 experiences.

16:44

13 **Q.** Okay. And looking at those bullets still, how does a
14 60 percent higher number of customers, as responded in
15 the case of the manager financial reporting and
16 accounting north of 60 result in a 93 percent
17 allocation of the supervisor and customer accounting
18 positions? How does that compare across the three
19 utilities?

20 **A. MR. GRATTAN:** So the only -- on the accounting
21 side, the manager north of 60 is shared 50 percent to
22 ATCO Electric Yukon and 50 percent to the Northland
23 companies. The supervisor of financial services does
24 not work. There's a supervisor in place on the
25 Northland side --

16:44

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. MR. GRATTAN: -- that is responsible for working
3 on Northland activities, and there's a supervisor in
4 place for ATCO Electric Yukon that works on
5 ATCO Electric.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. MR. GRATTAN: Mr. Tenney has --

8 A. MR. TENNEY: I'll just enter into this
9 response.

10 Q. Please do.

16:45

11 A. MR. TENNEY: I think you were asking about the
12 super -- at some point you mentioned the supervisor of
13 customer accounting.

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. MR. TENNEY: And you want wanted to know why
16 that individual salary was charged 93 percent to the
17 Yukon.

18 Q. Yes.

19 A. MR. TENNEY: Why it wasn't the 50/50?

20 Q. Yes.

16:45

21 A. MR. TENNEY: We have supervisor customer
22 accounting in Northlands Yellowknife and a supervisor
23 of customer accounting in Northlands, NWT. The
24 position here just does some of the more complex
25 billing questions and interphases with the folks in

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 Edmonton and helps out the two Northlands utilities.

2 Q. Thank you.

3 A. **MR. GRATTAN:** He's got it. Thank you.

4 Q. Mr. Grattan, it's a good thing we're not doing
5 depreciation.

6 In terms of your CIS system, is a community code
7 used to distinguish between different communities when
8 you're looking at FTEs? CIS systems.

9 A. **MR. GRATTAN:** Sorry, could you repeat that
10 **question, please?**

16:47

11 Q. Do you distinguish between different communities in
12 your CIS system? Like, do you use a community code for
13 those?

14 A. **MR. GRATTAN:** Yes, we do.

15 Q. Okay. And does the entry of a different community code
16 significantly impact the time, the distribution of
17 manager financial reporting and accounting north of 60,
18 is that impacted by the different community code, or
19 not, for those positions?

20 A. **MR. GRATTAN:** Now, I wouldn't say there's a
21 **direct correlation. I think it's a general correlation**
22 **that's -- historically we have, with the manager of**
23 **financial reporting, found that he or she as the case**
24 **may be is spending approximately 50 percent of their**
25 **time on the NWT side, and they're spending**

16:47

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 approximately 50 percent of their time on the Yukon
2 side.

3 I can't say there's a direct correlation between
4 the number of customers, but when you look at the
5 companies, it's -- it does make sense since that it's about a
6 50/50 split of effort.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. MR. GRATTAN: As well as what actually happens.

9 Q. Okay. When looking at the magnitude of ATCO Electric
10 Yukon's capital program, can you give me a comparative
11 idea of what the magnitude of the capital program is
12 for ATCO Electric Yukon in compared to
13 Northland Utilities in terms of dollars, say?

16:48

14 A. MR. TENNEY: That's clearly one that I'm going
15 to get to answer that I'm probably going to get to give
16 you an undertaking on.

17 Q. That's fine, Mr. Tenney. If you could undertake to
18 provide the order of magnitude of ATCO Electric Yukon's
19 capital program compared to Northland Utilities in
20 dollar value?

16:49

21 A. MR. TENNEY: And so you're just looking for --
22 are you looking for 2016-2017, the test period?

23 Q. Can we do '15 actual --

24 A. MR. TENNEY: '15 actuals?

25 Q. And then '16 and '17 if you're able to do that, sir.

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Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 A. MR. TENNEY: We probably can, but we won't --
2 the 2016 and '17 were not before a Public Utilities
3 Board there, so it will be an internal estimate.

4 Q. Okay. That's fine, sir. If you want to put in --

5 A. MR. TENNEY: '15, '16, '17 you want
6 Northlands Yellowknife and NWT split out and
7 ATCO Electric compared to ATCO Electric Yukon?

8 Q. That's correct. And if you need to put any notes or
9 footnotes to properly explain that, that's fine, sir.
10 Thank you.

16:50

11 UNDERTAKING - TO PROVIDE THE ORDER OF
12 MAGNITUDE OF ATCO ELECTRIC YUKON'S
13 CAPITAL PROGRAM COMPARED TO
14 NORTHLAND UTILITIES IN DOLLAR VALUE,
15 THE '15, '16, AND '17 ACTUALS
16 (SEE TEXT)

17 MS. SABO: Mr. Chairman, I believe we can
18 mark the Aid to Questioning 5, which was the
19 organizational charts of ATCO Electric Yukon from both
20 the 2013-'15 GRA and the composite packages with the
21 current charts included in the application.

16:50

22 THE CHAIR: All right. We'll mark that as
23 Exhibit A-19.

24 EXHIBIT A-19 - AID TO QUESTIONING 5,
25 THE ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS OF

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 ATCO ELECTRIC YUKON FROM BOTH THE
2 2013-'15 GRA AND THE COMPOSITE PACKAGES
3 WITH THE CURRENT CHARTS INCLUDED IN THE
4 APPLICATION

5 MS. SABO: Thank you.

6 Q. And I'd like to move to Aid to Cross Number 6, and
7 we'll just wait until that's handed out as well. And I
8 just wanted -- we just did this chart on the summary of
9 the organizational charts that we just marked. We just
10 did a table to understand the changes as we saw them,
11 so I'd just like the panel to confirm after that's
12 handed out that you don't have any corrections to this
13 table that -- our understanding of the adjustments in
14 this table between the 2013 and '15 GRA and the
15 2016-'17 GRA are correct.

16:51

16 A. MR. GRATTAN: So all that I want to make sure
17 that is clearly on the record is under -- as you
18 mentioned earlier, under the accounting line for the
19 '13 to '15 approved --

20 Q. Yes.

16:51

21 A. MR. GRATTAN: -- versus the 3, and then this aid
22 to cross shows an accounting number of 1 or a decrease
23 of minus 2. As we discussed earlier, you've just
24 grouped it in a different spot. They continue to do
25 the same function, so there's no change in overall

T. MARTINO, J. GRATTAN, D. TENNEY, J. MASSIE - GENERAL PANEL
Questioned by Ms. Sabo

1 complement. So I just wanted to make sure that was
2 clear.

3 Q. Thank you.

4 A. MR. GRATTAN: Number 2, I want it to be very
5 clear that under the head office, the delta of 2 that
6 you've got there, that the first one is the corporate
7 accountant that we talked about earlier.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. MR. GRATTAN: And the second one relates to, as
10 you've noted, an increase in customer care and billing
11 that's tied to the change in service provider that
12 occurred in 2015 that odds are we'll talk about at some
13 point in the next number of hours.

14 Q. Okay. Thank you. Anyone else from the panel have any
15 apparent corrections? Okay. Thank you.

16 MS. SABO: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to mark
17 this as an exhibit. So it's Aid to Questioning 6,
18 summary from the organizational charts of ATCO Electric
19 Yukon.

20 THE CHAIR: So that one will be marked as
21 A-20.

22 MS. SABO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 EXHIBIT A-20 - AID TO QUESTIONING 6,
24 SUMMARY FROM THE ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS
25 OF ATCO ELECTRIC YUKON

16:52

16:53

1 MS. SABO: I'm just noting the time, sir, and
2 actually my next little portion of this area might take
3 more than five minutes. So I'm just wondering if it's
4 a good idea to adjourn for the day?

5 THE CHAIR: Yes. I think that that's
6 appropriate. And I understand that there have been
7 some discussions about start time tomorrow, and parties
8 have agreed that 8:30 would work for everyone? Is that
9 correct? Understanding; correct? I see heads nodding.

10 All right. So we'll reconvene here at 8:30
11 tomorrow morning.

12 And thank you for your time today.

13 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 4:54 P.M.) --

14

15 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED TO NOVEMBER 3, 2016, AT 8:30 A.M.

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16:54

1 Certificate of Transcript

2

3 We, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing
4 pages 199 to 389 are a complete and accurate transcript of
5 the proceedings taken down by us in shorthand and
6 transcribed from our shorthand notes to the best of our
7 skill and ability.

8 Dated at the City of Whitehorse, Province of Yukon, on
9 November 2, 2016.

10

11

12

"Danielle Harmata"

13

Danielle Harmata, CSR(A)

14

Official Court Reporter

15

16

"Adele Jones"

17

Adele Jones, CSR(A)

18

Official Court Reporter

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